



FLY-TIPPING FEAR AS DUMP TO SHUT

REPORT BY ALEX ROSS

PLANS to close Stourbridge's council tip will result in increased fly-tipping, it has been claimed.

Dudley Council wants to sell of its main tip on Birmingham Street under plans to be considered later this month.

It wants to move operations to Leys Depot in Brierley Hill, making it a central borough base for waste disposal.

The Leys site is viewed as a more suitable base for handling household and recycled waste.

But the move has been criticised by Cradley and Wollscote ward Councillor Richard Body.

He said: "Closing down the tip will mean people will have to travel further to dispose of waste."

"I'm afraid this will only lead to an increase in fly-tipping, which is already a major issue for us."

"We need to make it easier for people to legally dispose their waste, not take it further away from them."

"I know in the areas around me, such as in Lutley Lane, we already have a big problem with illegally disposed waste. This will not help."

Depot

There is another tip at Anchor Lane, near Colesey, but that is run by Wolverhampton Council.

Under plans announced this week by the city council, Anchor Lane will shut along with a tip at Shaw Road with a new superdump being created in land off Hickman Avenue, West Park.

The plans to go before Dudley Council this month would also see the Lister Road depot in Dudley redeveloped.

It is thought to be at least a year before operations will switch to Leys Road.

Birmingham Street has long been the main site for waste disposal and people living in the south of the borough would face longer journeys to get to the tip, which is open 9am to 5am every day during winter.

Dudley Council's environment boss Councillor Hilary Bills said: "At that site [Leys Depot] people won't have to be queuing up to go in, it will make it better for traffic flow."

"The site is large and we can do it properly."

"The queues coming onto the road is part of the thinking behind it and we thought it would be a suitable modern-day household recycling centre."

"The Stourbridge one had its uses but it has changed now to a recycling centre, it's got a recycling shop and other things we need to do and there isn't the space there to do it."

"We want to make it the best we can."

Also across the borough, there are 50 recycling centres, many situated on the side of streets or in supermarket car parks.

SNEAK PEEK INSIDE HISTORIC HAGLEY HALL



Lord Cobham, who is opening up the doors to his historic family home Hagley Hall, in the stunning library

LORD Cobham is throwing open the doors to his home allowing visitors a peek inside the lavish rooms of the historic Hagley Hall.

Tours around the 18th century hall are now on offer until March 12.

The 12th Viscount Cobham, whose family have owned the 300-acre estate near Stourbridge since the 1700s, said the tours were interesting as the hall is still a home.

"The house is full of little anecdotes and people love the tours, especially because it is a family house and always has been," said Lord Cobham, Christopher Lyttelton.

"There's lots of little anecdotes which come to life when people come along to one of the tours," he added. "I'm sure people will find them really quite fascinating."

History

The tours coincide with the proposals for a £2.5 million visitor centre which is set to be built in the grounds of the hall as part of a tourism project. The work is set to be completed in 2018.

The new visitor centre will contain elements of history along with various education

facilities and a play area. Other plans including a 178-space car park on land off the A456 are also in the pipeline.

Lord Cobham added: "I'm keen to see the place developed as a leisure estate because we want to keep people interested. Work is expected to be completed next year."

Tours around Hagley Hall run every day at 1.30pm and 3pm until March 12 with the exception of Thursday February 23.

Tickets are priced from £5 for children, £10 for adults and £25 for a family ticket. Call 01562 887290.

CLOSED

Last Ramsden's quits Black Country

THE Black Country's last remaining Harry Ramsden's has closed. The fish and chips restaurant only opened in Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, a year ago when it replaced fish and chip shop Chamberlains.

Chief executive Tom Crowley said: "It has been decided that this outlet is no longer viable for Harry Ramsden's."

The firm was unable to confirm how many jobs will be lost.

Harry Ramsden's is owned by West Bromwich-based frozen chicken company 2 Sisters Food Group, headed by Wolverhampton-born Ranjit Singh Boparan.

CRIME

Bank remains shut after knife robbery

A HIGH Street bank in Dudley has been closed for a fortnight following an armed robbery.

Police were called to The Royal Bank of Scotland on High Street just after 4pm on February 3. A female customer threatened staff with a knife and stole cash before fleeing on foot. No-one was injured.

The bank said it could not confirm when the branch would re-open but customers could use branches in Wolverhampton and Walsall.

FINANCE

Building society sees profits dip

PROFITS fell for the Tipton & Coseley Building Society last year despite a big increase in mortgage lending.

The society, which has its headquarters in Owen Street, Tipton, saw the group's net profit down from £2.31 million in 2015 to £1.69m.

Mortgage lending last year totalled £66.58m – up nearly 28 per cent from £52.08m in 2015.

The 116-year-old building society's gross capital increased to £37m – up almost five per cent on the previous year – and total assets were £372.4m, a rise of two per cent on 2015.

INSIDE

TANK TRIBUTE TO HERO STAN



PAGE 4

Wombourne Windows™

ORANGERIES AND CONSERVATORIES

KEEPING YOUR HOME AUTHENTIC,
SAFE AND ENERGY EFFICIENT THIS WINTER

www.wombourne-windows.co.uk

Morlock House, Bridgnorth Road, Wombourne, South Staffs WV5 0AL Telephone: 0845 603 0334 Opening Hours: Monday-Thursday 10am-6pm, Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 10am-4pm, Sunday 10am-2pm

2 CONTENTS

PETER RHODES	6
LETTERS	7
MEMORY LANE	18
THE FAST TICKET	21
TV GUIDE	24 – 26
PROPERTY	29
MOTORING	32
SPORT	39 & 40
CONTACT US	

EDITORIAL:
Tel: 01384 353201/01384 353205
E-mail: dudley.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:
Tel: 01902 319453
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHIC: Tel: 01902 319430
E-mail: picturedesk@expressandstar.co.uk

ADVERTISING: Sue Jones
Tel: 01384 399901
E-mail: sue.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

PROPERTY: Colin Bailey
Tel: 01902 313131 ext 3731
E-mail: colin.bailey@expressandstar.co.uk

MOTORING: Liz Barratt
Tel: 01384 353244
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

CLASSIFIED:
Tel: 01902 317878
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

Stourbridge

CHRONICLE

51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm and 2pm-5pm

www.yourchronicle.com

DON'T MISS YOUR

Express & Star

EVERY DAY

ON THE BALL

All your latest sports updates

EVERY SATURDAY

NIGEL HASTILOW

He always tackles the hot topics head-on



Duncan's uncle Sid was a hero too



Football hero Duncan Edwards

TO the thousands of adoring Manchester United fans who watched him from the terraces, Duncan Edwards was their hero.

But the Dudley-born football icon, who died from injuries sustained in the Munich air disaster in 1958, was not the only hero from the family, and not the only one to die tragically.

It has been 100 years since the death of Duncan's uncle Sidney Edwards, who was killed on the battlefield during the First World War.

While Duncan's journey from the playing fields of Dudley to the Busby

Babes of Manchester United is known the world over, his uncle's story remained hidden until recently. It was only when Roger Brownhill, Duncan's second cousin, researched his family history that he found out about Sidney's life and premature death.

Born in 1893, Sidney, who also hailed from Dudley, was only in his 20s when he died fighting in Mesopotamia, which is today mostly Iraq.

Little is known about Sidney's life, but he left behind a wife Annie and a young son, also called Sidney, when he went to fight. He served as a private

with the 9th Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment.

His regiment trained on Salisbury Plain before heading for Gallipoli, in modern-day Turkey, where it is believed Sidney saw action.

In January 1916 the regiment moved to Egypt and soon after to Mesopotamia.

Sadly, Sidney would never return home to his young family in Dudley. He died on January 25, 1917, at the Battle of Kut-al-Amara. He is buried in the Amara War Cemetery, Iraq. The family do not have a photograph of Sidney.

Borough leisure centres have made a £5m loss

DUDLEY'S leisure centres made a loss of more than £5 million over the last three years.

The figures from 2013 to 2016 show that the three centres had an expenditure of more than £13m but an income of just over £8m during that period.

Council bosses have revealed they want to demolish the three centres – in Dudley, Stourbridge and Halesowen – and replace them with two new state-of-the-art facilities, proposed for Dudley and Lye.

They calculate this could saved the cash-strapped authority £1.75m.

The council say now is the time to act as the centres are due essential repair, which would cost £2m.

More than 4,000 residents have signed a petition to keep the centres open.

Now opposition UKIP councillor Paul Brothwood has insisted that the council must find out why the centres have made such a loss.

He said: "We need to ensure value for money for taxpayers. The council need to look at why the centres have made such a loss.

"It seems the services the council provide to residents are not marketed well enough to generate more income. The leisure centres are a vital service and must be protected."

Shortfall

Crystal Leisure Centre is making the biggest loss, with a shortfall of over £1.5m between 2015 and 2016.

Dudley Leisure Centre made a loss of over £500,000 and Halesowen Leisure Centre lost over £600,000 during the same period.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, cabinet member for planning and economic development, said: "The expenses at the leisure centres are far higher than the income, so the council is having to fund them. The facilities are old and need to be upgraded. The centres have a time span of around 30 years but they're more than that – Halesowen Leisure Centre is over 50 years old.

"I must stress, the proposed closure of the three centres is years away and will only happen following full consultation and scrutiny, and after two new centres are built."

Designs are unveiled for Foley statue



Frank Foley on a park bench – one of the suggested designs by Steve Field for the statue in Mary Stevens Park

INITIAL designs for a statue to honour Frank Foley have been unveiled – but there is debate over exactly where it should be placed.

Foley, who retired to Stourbridge and is buried in the town, became known as the 'British Schindler' after repeatedly risking his life to save Jews in Hitler's Germany.

It is estimated that the Berlin-based British spy, while working undercover as a passport official, helped 10,000 Jews escape from Nazi Germany. He even entered Sachsenhausen concentration camp to presented visas to the camp authorities so that Jews could be freed to leave the country.

In recognition of his bravery, £40,000 has been raised for a bronze statue at Mary Stevens Park, close to the intelligence officer's former home in Eveson Road and the cemetery where he is buried.

Among those supporting the campaign are Stourbridge Conservative MP Margot James and Dud-

ley North Labour MP Ian Austin.

At a meeting of the Ernest Stevens Trust Management Committee potential designs were presented by the council's resident public artist Steve Field. One of the designs has Foley sitting on a bench with a briefcase, stamping passports, accompanied by birds representing freedom. A standing version has also been proposed.

Mr Foley died in 1958. There is already a statue in his honour near his birthplace in Somerset.

College and club kick off new academy of football

A NEW football academy which is a partnership between Dudley College and Stourbridge Football Club has opened its doors to players aiming to take their first steps into professional football.

The academy will combine football training with a BTEC sports qualification, giving a path into the professional game, while also developing broader skills suitable to a range of sports-related careers.

Dudley College sports curriculum manager, Rachel Corns, said: "Dudley College has already got a track record of providing players to Stourbridge FC, so this new partnership will formalise the relationship.

"Chris Knight, ex-England Colleges player and ex-Dudley student, is playing in the first team and our current student, Jake Brigdale, is a youth team player involved with the first team squad. We're hoping by working closer together we will have many more of these success stories in the future."

Students will study for up to two years for a diploma in sport coaching, development and fitness, alongside regular training sessions and match commitments. The academy squad will be competing in the Conference Youth Alliance.

Andy Bullingham, vice chairman and head of junior football at Stourbridge FC, said: "The club has had a marvellous cup run and our young talent has been part of that achievement. We have a long established youth development programme and this takes it to the next level."

GP in court on sex assault charges

A GP from Dudley charged with 18 sexual assaults involving ten patients will deny the allegations, a judge was told.

Dr Jaswant Rathore did not formally enter any plea to the charges when he appeared at Wolverhampton Crown Court. But his barrister Mr Alan Jenkins told the hearing: "There will be not guilty pleas to all charges."

The trial is set to start at the same court on November 27 is expected to last up to three weeks.

A plea and trial preparation hearing of the case is scheduled for May 22.

Rathore, aged 59, of Ploughmans Walk, Wall Heath, worked at a surgery in the Dudley area and previously served on the Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group. He was remanded on bail.

Easter musical to return to town hall

LOVE Dudley is staging its Easter production again this year. There will be performances of the Christian musical, which tells the Easter story with original songs, in Dudley Town Hall on April 14 and 15 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 from www.easterproduction.org.uk

GASWAY Ltd.

Est 1976



For complete peace of mind and a friendly service, why not visit Gasway in Lower High Street, Stourbridge DY8 1TA. 01384 372246





Open since 1976 Gasway has been your first choice for Gas Fires, Surrounds, Cookers and much more, all at competitive prices.

Why not visit Dave, Jon and the team today for FREE expert advice and quotes.

- Cookers Supplied and Fitted
- Gas Fires and Fire Surrounds
- Electric Fires and Fire suites
- Servicing Spare Parts
- Central Heating Systems Supplied and Fitted
- Fire Guards / Companion Sets
- All at competitive Prices

- ▶ Free standing gas stoves
- ▶ Natural gas or lpg
- ▶ Can be fitted into class 1, class 2 and pre cast flues
- ▶ Flue and venting options
- ▶ Manual control with integral ignition
- ▶ Log fuel bed
- ▶ Up to 78% efficient
- ▶ 3.6kw output



Celebrating 40 years in business

BROKEN DENTURES?

AT THE DENTAL SHOP

Need Your Dentures Repairing Fast Well Look No Further We Are The Leading Specialists In Denture Repairs!

We Also Offer A Denture Cleaning Service!

01384 413444 Emergency Weekend

07701 067261 Repair Service Available

The Dental Shop 231 203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, B64 6HE

Footworks Chiropody

How Registered Chiropodists

Ingrown Toe Nails Treated

Toe Nail Cutting and Trimming

Diabetic Foot Care

General Foot Care

Callus Reduction

Home Visit Service Also Available

01384 413444

201 - 203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, B64 6HE

MP support for society's family debt campaign

A CHILDREN'S Society campaign to help families struggling with debt is being backed by Dudley North MP Ian Austin.

The charity's latest report sets out the impact of debt on families with children, including on their mental health.

It is proposing a new breathing space scheme to offer interest-free mortgage loans to these families so that they can get back on top of their finances.

Mr Austin has written a letter to work and pensions minister Damian Green asking the Government to support the scheme.

The Labour MP said: "Money is still tight for a lot of families in Dudley, with some falling into spiralling debts that they struggle to keep up with."

Policy

"This report from the Children's Society sets out a common-sense policy to give families some breathing space and I want the Government to consider it."

"I'll also keep working to drive payday lenders out of our town and promote responsible lenders like the Castle and Crystal credit union here in Dudley."

Every year, the Children's Society works directly with more and more of the most disadvantaged children.

It aims to tackle child poverty and neglect head on, from helping families trapped in debt, child runaways and young carers, to stopping the menace of child sexual exploitation.

Labour hold seat at by-election

LABOUR held on to a Dudley Council seat in the by-election for the St Thomas's ward with more than 60 per cent of the vote.

NHS biomedical scientist Shaneila Mughal, a former Castle High School and Dudley College student, was elected after receiving 1,466 votes.

UKIP's Phil Wimlet took second place with 653, Conservative candidate Jonathan Elliot polled 249 votes and the Green Party's Francis Sheppard 52. The turnout was 23.5 per cent. The by-election last Thursday following the resignation of Glenis Simms in December.

Councillor Mughal, who lives in the ward with her husband and three children, joins fellow Labour ward councillors Shaikat Ali and Steve Waltho.

Gig for 'Titan of the Telecaster'

AMERICAN guitarist Bill Kirchen is bringing his musical talent to Stourbridge. The 'Titan of the Telecaster' returns to the UK in March. His tour will stop at The Talbot Hotel in High Street on Friday, March 24.

Wife in justice vow over asbestos death



Jeanette and David Priest

A GRIEVING widow is launching legal action against Tesco, after her husband died from asbestos-related cancer.

Father-of-three David Priest, 69, was a manager for the supermarket chain between 1974 and 1985 at various shops in the West Midlands, helping to oversee expansions at supermarkets in Dudley, Smethwick and Edgbaston.

He recalled asbestos boards and tiles being cut up as part of building work, and said he would help to clear up afterwards, his family said.

After being diagnosed last January with mesothelioma, a terminal cancer caused by exposure to asbestos dust, Mr Priest only lived for seven months.

In the last weeks he was confined to bed, too weak to even eat. Robbed of the retirement they had planned to spend together, 55-year-old Jeanette Priest has vowed to get justice for her husband after they instructed lawyers Slater and Gordon.

Mr Priest, originally from Tipton, had worked in the food retail industry since leaving school. His wife, who also worked for the company, said:

"He was a stickler for doing things properly and would always make sure that areas were cleaned so the dust and debris didn't accumulate. That was the only place he could remember coming into contact with asbestos."

Mr Priest, who has seven grandchildren and great-grandchildren, moved to Blackpool with Jeanette in 1990 and ran The Andora Hotel.

A Tesco spokesman said: "We take the health and safety of our employees extremely seriously but given this is an ongoing legal matter, we are unable to provide further comment."

Council pays £22k for damage from potholes

DUDLEY Council paid out more than £22,000 in compensation for damage caused by potholes during a two-year period.

New figures reveal 270 claims were lodged by drivers against the council between 2014 and 2016 over damage caused by crumbling roads.

It comes after it was announced the council would be given funding to fix potholes.

Almost 1,000 people complained in total about damaged roads over the two-year period.

But opposition Conservative councillor Patrick Harley said the figures were just the 'tip of the iceberg'.

He said: "The money paid is peanuts compared to the overall budget but it's still money the council has lost. But the money is the tip of the iceberg as there's no doubt even more people who have had their cars damaged and haven't bothered to claim compensation."

"It's a real problem. When they first reduced the road budget four years ago we warned the council that the roads would suffer."

The authority has recently received confirmation of £238,000 of additional funding to repair the roads.

Urgent

Dudley council's environmental boss, Councillor Hillary Bills, said the authority is working to deal with as many pothole issues as possible.

She said: "We have a robust system in place with inspection teams who identify road defects such as potholes, with the most severe cases highlighted for urgent attention."

"Clearly, we have to prioritise the most serious problems above others but we are working to deal with as many as we can. We also have a busy planned maintenance schedule in place including resurfacing to protect and repair borough roads wherever possible and have just received confirmation of £238,000 of additional funding to tackle potholes after our bid was submitted quickly by officers."

Last month it was revealed millions was going to be ploughed into fixing potholes by the Government in the West Midlands, including £1.22m for the West Midlands Combined Authority.

South Staffordshire Conservative MP Gavin Williamson said: "The state of our roads is consistently raised with me by residents and remains a great source of frustration for drivers."

Historic pub on market for £240k



Traditional pub the Queen's Head in Enville Street, Stourbridge, is on the market for £240,000

A PUB boss who has placed a 200-year-old venue on the market hopes whoever takes it on will embrace the new trend for craft beer and real ale.

The Queen's Head in Stourbridge has been listed for £240,000 by Streety-based Matthew Phillips Surveys.

The pub in Enville Street is owned by John Nuttall and managed on his behalf.

His son Steve, who owns Joulé's

Brewery in Market Drayton, said: "The trustees feel that it is a good time to seek some interest and we are looking at either a freehold or a leasehold opportunity."

Current landlords Mick and Mandy Burton have been at The Queen's Head for more than a decade. Steve said he hoped they could stay on under new ownership.

He added: "With the craft beer and ale market moving on we

think this may be better suited by embracing the new trend for craft and real ale."

"Mick and Mandy have yet to decide if they will continue to man the pumps and any decision about the future is still some way away."

"We decided to test the market gently to see if there was interest. The Queen's Head is a great pub with great charm."

The pub will remain open while it is on the market

NEWS IN BRIEF

Roadworks start on a busy route

A MAJOR roadworks scheme between Stourbridge, Kingswinford and Brierley Hill got under way this week.

Work on High Street, Amblecote, at the junction with Brestell Lane, is due to last for three months.

Traffic lights and pedestrian crossings will be revamped with work taking place on weekdays between 9.30am and 3.30pm and on some Sundays.

Highways chiefs said the works, costing £250,000, were being carried out to cut delays on one of the main routes in and out of Stourbridge.

Arrest warrant over dog incident

AN arrest warrant has been issued for a man accused of being in charge of a dog that attacked an assistance dog.

Darren Sharpe, aged 46, of Brooke Street, Dudley, was due to appear at Dudley Magistrates' Court on Thursday, following an alleged attack in the High Street on January 16 involving a Staffordshire bull terrier attacking a German shepherd cross assistance dog.

A warrant for Sharpe's arrest was issued by the district judge because he failed to turn up to magistrates court to answer the charge.

Council staff set for strike ballot

COUNCIL workers in Dudley are set to vote on whether to strike over proposed changes to their working conditions.

Staff rejected proposals put forward by council bosses, which could see some workers made to pay for parking and mileage allowances slashed, in an initial ballot to 'test the water'.

Unite union said workers would be balloted on whether to strike if the council does not back down on changes which affect 280 staff.

Beacon help getting to grips with technology

SOME of the latest technology innovations will be showcased at an event next week.

The Beacon Centre in Sedgley is hosting a tech week from Monday to February this week. It aims to take away the fear factor that some people have about using some of the latest gadgets.

The free event will showcase a wide range of equipment and technology which mainly, but not exclusively, supports those with sight loss.

Care on the agenda

DUDLEY Council will make a presentation at a conference to show how care is conducted in the borough. The National Care Association hosts the spring conference Promoting Dignity in Care, with the National Dignity Council, on March 16 at The Regis Conference and Banqueting Centre.

DON'T throw out costly cabinets when you can re-use them!

We Can Replace the Doors

01384 293654
Monday to Friday 10am - 5.30pm
Saturday 10 - 4pm
Closed Sunday

Kitchen Looking Tired?

The Best Ever Winter Sale from The Midlands No.1 Original Specialists

MEGA Winter Sale
Free Worktops
PLUS Free Handles
PLUS Free New Hinges
PLUS Extra 10% off Doors

Over 40 Styles & Colours

www.iudk.co.uk

Next to Sainsburys - Wordsley Green Stourbridge

0800 088 7044

Add Value to your home with our amazing concept

We Welcome



COUNTY NEWS

Focus on health and happiness

DUDLEY and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust will celebrate International Happiness Day on March 16.

The trust is holding a Mental Health Forum focusing on maintaining mental health and wellbeing. The forum, which takes place quarterly, will be held at Brierley Hill Civic Hall in Bank Street, between 11am and 1pm.

A free lunch will be provided. Booking is required.

Email communication@dwmh.nhs.uk, or call 01384 325015.

Gold warning at Hindu festivals

POLICE have issued a warning for Hindu festival goers to keep their gold secure.

Two festivals – Maha Shivaratri this weekend and Holi in March – traditionally see Hindus wear lots of gold as part of the celebrations.

But in previous years this has led to an increase in burglaries as valuables like gold are then left on display or unsecured.

Police said people should keep their valuables in a home safe and to photograph them to assist in identification if stolen.

Sixty call-outs to cannabis fires

FIREFIGHTERS in the West Midlands were called to 60 blazes involving cannabis last year, at ‘factories’ where it was being grown.

West Midlands Fire Service spokesman Neil Spencer said: “Cannabis ‘factories’ can be incredibly dangerous places for our firefighters to enter. Criminals bypass the power supply, make unsafe structural alterations, and fill the premises with growing equipment that uses loads of electricity.”

Talks over free toll during emergencies

THE West Midlands Combined Authority has confirmed it is in talks with the Government to give the region powers over the M6 Toll.

Bosses want control over removing the toll when major accidents occur on other major local routes. Currently the route’s operators have the powers to lift the toll in times of emergency.

WMCA’s transport chief Councillor Roger Lawrence said: “We want to be able to push the button to switch to free mode in the event of problems.”

BT traineeships offer

BT is offering seven-week traineeships for 30 young people, aged 16 to 24. They are at Providence Place, West Bromwich, from March 14, and from May 9 at Goodall Street, Walsall.

Visit: www.btpc.com/Careercentre/WorkReady/ApplyforABTtraineeship/index.htm

Man threatened to kill his ex-partner

A FATHER threatened to kill his ex-partner with a knife while their two young children were in the house.

James Hawkins, of Duke Street, Lower Gornal, threatened Rachel While while grasping a bread knife.

Wolverhampton Crown Court was told the pair’s two children, aged one and four, were in the property as the attack took place on December 15. Ms While – who has been in an on-off relationship with Hawkins for five years – phoned the police and he left.

Officers found the 34-year-old drunk behind the wheel of his car.

Hawkins was given a 20-month prison sentence, suspended for two years, and told to pay £150 in compensation to his victim. He was also disqualified from driving for three years.

Recorder Justin Widoger, passing sentence, said: “This was an utterly

disgraceful piece of behaviour.” Mr Charles Crinion, prosecuting, said Hawkins and Ms While had met by chance on the morning of the attack in Dudley High Street. There was an argument and Hawkins swore at her.

He later turned up at her home later and burst into the bathroom as she was having a bath, with a bread knife in his hand, and threatened to slit her throat. She reached for a

mobile phone in her dressing gown and said she was calling police. Then Hawkins threatened to harm her older children from a previous relationship.

Hawkins avoided going behind bars after Ms While said her children were missing their father. He had pleaded guilty to two counts of making a threat to kill, of drink driving and of damaging property.

Vicious taxi robber is caught by her giggle

A VICIOUS robber who slashed the face of a taxi driver to steal his earnings has been jailed – after she was caught by a sharp-thinking West Midlands Police officer who recognised her distinctive voice.

Pc Andy Cleaver managed to identify Jessica Buchanan after hearing her voice recorded on the dash camera of the victim’s vehicle.

A knife was found in Buchanan’s bag after she was arrested.

The 21-year-old initially denied any involvement in the robbery off New Birmingham Road, Tividale, which saw the taxi driver have a knife pushed against his neck and leaving him with scarring to the nose and lip following a struggle.

Audio captured on the dash cam and the victim’s phone caught her giggling as she made off with £75 in the early hours of May 18.

Guilty

Buchanan, of no fixed address, went on to plead guilty to robbery at Wolverhampton Crown Court and was jailed for four years and 10 months.

PC Cleaver said: “The only evidence we had to go on was the audio and her voice must have just stuck in my mind. I just knew she was the taxi robber when she started talking.”

“Although our team wasn’t leading the investigation the sound captured on the dash cam and mobile phone was shared with us as neighbourhood officers in the area. Thankfully it paid off.”

Bird’s eye view of nature in talk

A NATURE writer will give a talk at a Black Country library about his travels around Britain.

Matt Merritt, nature writer and editor of Bird Watching magazine, will visit Stourbridge Library on Wednesday, March 1. Mr Merritt’s latest work, A Sky Full of Birds, documents his travels around Britain.

The author is also a poet with two collections, The Elephant Tests, and Hydrotaktulopsychicharmonica, both published in the West Midlands by Nine Arches Press.

All of his books are available to borrow from Dudley libraries.

The event starts at 6.30pm. Tickets are £3 including refreshments. To book call in at the library or phone (01384) 812945.

Two people taken to hospital after crash

TWO people were taken to hospital after three cars crashed in Netherton.

A male driver had to be cut from his vehicle and taken to Russells Hall Hospital. A woman motorist was also taken to hospital after the accident in St Peter’s Road on February 14

Tank is a big tribute to unsung heroes like Stan

By Marion Brennan

THE story of a Second World War hero – who was awarded a Distinguished Service Medal but never spoke of it – has re-emerged after a flurry of interest on social media in a British Army tank that is parked on a Black Country industrial estate.

The 60-ton Chieftain tank was placed there by site owner Tony Whittaker more than 20 years ago for a very special reason – and now a new generation is learning about its origins.

“I first knew about it when I went to the bank last week and the girl behind the counter said ‘I’ve seen your tank on Facebook’,” said Mr Whittaker. “After that a few people asked me about it.”

The 72-year-old businessman bought the tank in 1994 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the D-Day landings – in particular, one man’s part in it.

Sergeant Major Stanley Longmore had been despatched to the Normandy beaches in 1944 after distinguishing himself in the Battle of El Alamein, a British victory which turned the tide in the North African Campaign.

When he returned to civvy street, he got a job as a moulder in a brickyard in The Delph, Brierley Hill, where Tony, then aged 15, was apprenticed to him.

Saved

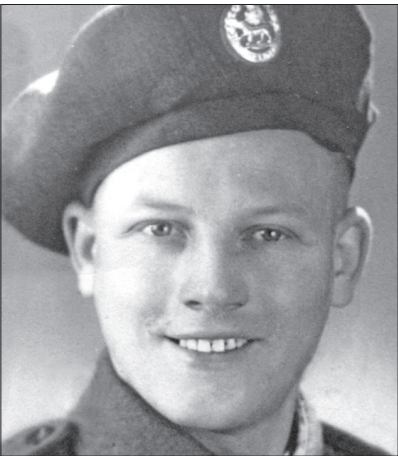
Two years later, the teenager saved Stan’s life after rescuing him from a river in Hereford where they were fishing. Thirty years later, Tony was rewarded for his good deed when he was contacted by his widow to tell him Stanley had died and left him his war-time medals in his will as a thank you ‘for saving my life.’

“I never knew what he’d done in the war, much less that he’d received the DSM from the King at Buckingham Palace. He never talked about it,” said Tony, who lives in Wall Heath.

“There aren’t enough Stan Longmores in this world so when I had the opportunity to buy the tank around the time of the D-Day landings anniversary, I took it, and put it on the industrial estate in honour of Stan and those like him.”



Tony Whittaker holds a photo of Stan whilst son Steve Whittaker stands on Brierley Hill landmark, the Chieftain Tank



Sgt Major Stanley Longmore during the war years



For distinguished conduct – one of Stan’s war medals

Able & Bromley Carpets / Beds

Family Run Est since 1978

SOFAS, VINYLs LAMINATES, STAIRLIFTS

WE DO WHAT OTHER CARPET FIRMS WON'T.

Help move heavy furniture, up lift plus take away old carpets **FREE OF CHARGE**

Shave doors. Bed assemble and disposal.

DISABLED? OAP? CAN'T GET OUT?

or anyone who just needs extra help!

Can't come to us, we'll come to YOU

We will bring 100s of carpet samples sofa and bed brochures to your door

<p>Electric Chairs from £899</p>	<p>Electric Beds from £549</p>	<p>Heavy Domestic Saxony's from £6.99 sq yd was £14.99</p>	<p>Double Orthopaedic Divan Bed £245</p>	<p>Divan Beds Singles from £92 Double from £142</p>	<p>Bleach cleanable carpets from £3.99 sq yd</p>
---	---------------------------------------	--	--	---	--

UP TO 75% OFF 100's of rolls and end of rolls in store at knockdown prices **WE WILL BEAT YOUR BIG SUPERSTORE**

Click on-line for many great prices - www.ablecarpets.co.uk

Free quotes and Planning

Warehouse Unit, D Dormston Trading Est., Burton Road, Gornal DY1 3TD

OPEN: MON-SAT 9.30-5.00

FREEPHONE 0800 0853747

Quarry Bank

Lye

Wollscote

Kinver

Stourbridge

Pedmore

Brierley Hill

Wordsley

OPEN SUNDAYS 10am-3pm

Adrian Bromley 01902 880541

WE ARE HERE

Denture Care

New dentures will allow you to eat, smile and talk with **CONFIDENCE!**

- We have a special interest in your denture
- Listening to our patients , communication is key for success
- We can spend over 3 hours to ensure the perfect smile
- The most advance techniques are used to customise your denture all under one roof
- A range is available to accommodate everyone's budget .

NEW DENTURES

COPY DENTURES

NATURAL LOOKING

DENTURE REPAIR

Providing a professional, personal & discreet service. Patient satisfaction is our highest priority

CALL FOR A FREE CONSULTATION

Lee Jorrington 01384 468 648

CDT RCS ENG RDT.

3a BLACKBERRY LANE, HALESOWEN, B63 4NX

HOME VISITS AVAILABLE

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mayor ready to flip in contest

THE Mayor of Dudley is set to take on his deputy in a pancake flipping contest as part of a free pancake family fun day at the Moor Shopping Centre in Brierley Hill on Saturday.

A pancake flipping challenge will see who can flip the most pancakes in one minute in return for prizes.

Mayor, Councillor Mohammed Hanif, and deputy mayor, Councillor Dave Tyler, will go head-to-head on stage at noon.

A chef will serve up pancakes. Gluten and dairy-free versions will also be available.

Bridal business in running for award

A BRIDAL business near Stourbridge has been shortlisted for a national wedding award.

Worn With Love Bridal, based in Hagley, is a finalist in the Wedding Dress and Accessories Supplier of the Year category in the Bridebook.co.uk Wedding Awards 2017.

Shop owner Claire Ingram, said she set up the business in 2009 so brides on a budget can pick up dresses that are more affordable, going full time in 2015. Thousands of votes are being cast and winners will be announced next week.

Stalls needed at day for under-5s

STALLHOLDERS are being offered the chance to be a part of the annual under 5s day at Himley Hall in June.

The popular family event, which features activities and entertainment for under-5s, saw a record number of 4,400 visitors at last summer's event.

Organisations and businesses offering products relating to children, such as toys, clothing or information, are welcome at the June 23 event. To apply for a stall, email dawn.a.smith@ Dudley.gov.uk or call (01384) 817817.

Theatre company are to stage whodunnit

STOURBRIDGE Theatre Company has chosen an Agatha Christie murder mystery for its latest production.

And Then There Were None is being staged in Stourbridge Town Hall from April 6 to 8 at 7.30pm. The writer adapted her 1939 novel for the stage in 1943 and it was previously staged by the town's drama company in 2005.

Tickets are £10 on 0333 6663366 or from the website www.stourbridgetheatre.co.uk or the French Deli in Stourbridge town centre.

Double decade disco

THE next Ultimate Entertainments event at Brierley Hill Civic Hill will be an 80s versus 90s disco tomorrow (Friday).

The double decade disco at the venue on Bank Street will feature 20 years of classic pop music. Tickets are £6 on the door, call (01384) 573381.

Retail giant is named and shamed over wages

RETAIL giant Debenhams has failed to pay nearly 12,000 of its staff the minimum wage required by law.

The firm has been 'named and shamed' by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy alongside 359 others that underpaid their workers the national minimum or living wage.

It was by the far the biggest offender on the list having failed to pay £134,894.83 to 11,858 workers.

A Debenhams spokesman said: "Debenhams made a technical error in its payroll calculations, which resulted in an average underpayment of around £10 per person to the affected colleagues in 2015.

"As a responsible employer, Debenhams is committed to the national minimum wage, and as soon as the error was identified by a routine HMRC audit last year, we reimbursed all those affected.

"We have apologised to all our colleagues affected and taken steps to ensure it cannot happen again."

Debenhams has stores in Walsall, Kidderminster, Lichfield, Telford, Birmingham and at Merry Hill shopping centre. The company is also set to open a huge store over four floors at the revamped Mander Centre in Wolverhampton.

Also been named were: Sara Motors Limited in Brierley Hill, which failed to pay a single worker £4,221.00; Subway at Merry Hill shopping centre, operated by Eat Fresh Merry Hill Limited, which failed to pay £814.27 to 12 workers.

Move green bank over here, says MP

DUDLEY North MP Ian Austin is calling on the Government to move its Green Investment Bank to the West Midlands, instead of privatising it.

The bank was launched by the Government in 2012 with £3 billion in funding to invest in renewable energy and other low-carbon technologies.

The bank could now be sold off to Australian firm Macquarie, with concerns that it could be asset stripped.

The Labour MP previously campaigned for the bank to be established in the West Midlands to bring new businesses and jobs to the region. He has now written to Chancellor Philip Hammond urging him to consider relocation to the West Midlands while saving money on rent and staffing costs.

Venue set to host card game Magic

MORE than 3,000 trading card fans are expected to converge on Birmingham NEC for Magic: The Gathering Grand Prix from August 11 to 13. It celebrates card game Magic, which has more than 20 million players.

£1m deal to secure future of indoor market



Brierley Hill Market is set to get a revamp

BRIERLEY Hill's historic market hall is set to be sold for around £1 million.

An agreement has been reached over the landmark building in a deal to pave the way for fresh investment in the indoor market and end uncertainty over its future.

It will be taken over by a consortium comprising of some of the current owners, meaning it will remain in the family which has owned it for almost a century.

The deal, which is expected to be completed in the coming weeks,

brings assurances for traders about their future on High Street. There had been concerns what the building changing hands could mean for the town's indoor market.

Investment

Market manager Steve Banks said: "It is very positive news and means there will be new investment in the building itself.

"Money will be put into new facilities once everything is complete.

"Things are getting more buoyant in there. Traders are more positive

about the place and hopefully that will come through to the customers."

Mr Banks said upgrades at the market would include new ground floor toilets, including disabled facilities, as well as improvements to the outdoor market.

A letter has been sent out to traders from Mr Banks and fellow market manager Wayne Jones. It said: "We can confirm that the sale of the market is proceeding and will soon come to completion." Brierley Hill councillor Rachel Harris said the news was a huge boost for the town

Mother-to-be was hit in the face by ex-boyfriend

A HEAVILY pregnant woman was punched in the face by her former partner, despite a restraining order being in place against him.

Chantelle Witton was attacked in her Brierley Hill home by Ryan Jones, 21, the father of her three-year-old son.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that she was seven months pregnant when the attack took place on November 18, 2016.

The attack was the latest in a string of incidents of abuse and harassment by Jones towards Ms Witton. The court heard that he had persisted in bothering her since the restraining order was imposed in May 2014.

Miss Elizabeth Power, defending, said Jones had gone to speak to Ms Witton after his contact with their child ceased.

Prosecutor Mr Paul Mytton said: "Ms Witton was having a bath when she became aware of a noise downstairs. She went to see what it was and found the defendant sat on her settee in breach of the restraining order preventing him from contacting her.

"She wanted him to go but he wouldn't. She was scared. He followed her about the house and upstairs. There was an argument and he punched her in the face and she fell onto the bed.

"There is reference in her statement to a further incident in the bathroom where she had gone to hide and a suggestion he kicked the bathroom door and grabbed her. Ms Witton was crying through all of this."

Injuries

Ms Witton suffered injuries to her hip and forehead in the attack.

The court heard that the restraining order was initially imposed after Jones assaulted Ms Witton and bit her on the cheek. He has further convictions for assaulting and harassing her, and just last year received a suspended sentence for an assault occasioning actual bodily harm.

Mitigating on Jones' behalf, Miss Power, added: "He went there to find out about his son. There was an argument and it escalated and he accepts he struck her in the face causing injury."

Jones, of no fixed address, pleaded guilty to assault occasioning actual bodily harm and breaching a restraining order.

Recorder Martin Wasik sentenced him to 12 months behind bars.

Boxing club revamp is a knockout



Coaches Rich Johnson, Dale Flute, Paul Gough and Mitchel Pearce with members of Priory Park Boxing Club

A REVAMP of Priory Park Boxing Club in Dudley has taken place thanks to grants.

The refurbishment of the Dudley club has been funded by money raised through community campaigns and sponsorships from businesses. This included £50,000 from Sport England, secured with help from Dudley North MP Ian Austin. A total of £10,450 was also raised through the Castle and Priory Ward community forum.

Owner Paul Gough has run the club for more than 20 years. "The revamp has helped the community tremendously," said the 51-year-old, from Dudley. "Our class sizes are increasing and we are able to take on more kids and help keep them off the streets. We are also getting more boxers who fight on cards.

"Our members have gone up from 45 to 70, but I expect that number to grow to more than 100

in a few months. We are lucky we have got good people behind us."

A new 18-foot boxing ring sits proudly in the gym, while the changing rooms have been upgraded and the gym extended with new training facilities.

Councillor Ken Finch, who helps run the community forum with fellow councillors Margaret Aston and Alan Finch, said: "I am excited for the future of the boxing club."

ADVERTISEMENT

Has Your Double Glazing Steamed Up?

Established for over a decade Cloudy2Clear windows have become a leading company for glass replacement. Issues with double glazing can often be gradual and may only be noticed during a clear sunny day or during the winter. A failed glass unit may no longer provide you with the protection you need or be energy efficient. Why not spend a few minutes checking your home to see if you have any

failed double glazing?

If you act now you can avoid these problems.

Now, you may think you need to replace the whole window including the frames and all the hardware, however Cloudy2Clear have come up with a simple and cost saving solution... Just replace the glass!!

If you see condensation in your windows just visit our website or give us a call on 0800 61 21 118.

We will send out our highly

experienced engineers for a free no obligation quote. A Cloudy2Clear quote takes on average no longer than 20 minutes. Once the quote is completed, we will sit down with you and explain the problem and tell you how we can fix it. With years of experience Cloudy2Clear have a wealth of knowledge and are recognised as a Which Trusted Trader, plus our work is backed

by an industry leading 25 year guarantee. Cloudy2Clear also replace faulty locks handles and hinges on all windows and doors.

Your friendly local Cloudy2Clear specialist is Brian Stanley and he services Stourbridge & the surrounding areas.

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118.

“

Cloudy2Clear
GUARANTEE All
Customers That An
Average Quote Will
Take No Longer
Than 20 MINS!!!

”

**Cloudy2Clear Windows...
Service With A Smile!**

Cloudy2Clear Are A...
**Which? Trusted
Trader**

All Glazing Backed By Our
**25 YEAR
GUARANTEE**

Priority Freephone
0800 61 21 118
www.cloudy2clear.com

Broken Or Damaged Windows? Faulty Locks, Handles, Hinges! f t

Time to put the brakes on bad parking

FREE parking...yes, there is such a place – and you will be surprised to learn this place is regularly patrolled by police and maintained by Dudley Council.

There are even markings on the area where you're guided to place your wheels snugly against the kerb to park your car with impunity. Furthermore there is no fear of clamping, no private security and no towing away of your precious car.

This place is not difficult to find, in fact thousands of motorists drive past this area every single day and a further

bonus is that this area is right on the high street.

So without further ado I will reveal this area...it's High Street Pensnett opposite Russell's Hall Hospital. I hear you say 'NO, there are double yellow lines at that location'. Yes, there are, but today's inconsiderate motorists appear to think these lines are in fact for parking on.

Regularly I drive along this car parking area and find myself amazed at how many lawbreakers are taking advantage of this free parking with what appears to have no time limits.

I have even contacted Dudley Highway about this gratuity for motorists and they insisted it is being looked into.

So, come on and be fair. Leave the pavements for whom they were intended, pedestrians, or take the responsibility of any consequence that could take place with such dangerous inconsiderate parking.

Don't let a fatality of a pedestrian be the wake-up call you need.

PETE LOWE
Brierley Hill

Fined more for litter than a broken jaw

WATCHING the local TV news the other day I saw four youths going into court charged with throwing a brick at a taxi, resulting in the breaking an elderly woman's jaw.

As it was their first conviction, or the first time they were caught, they were given a 12-month youth order and fined £50.

A few weeks ago a pal of mine was fined £75 for dropping a cigarette end in Dudley High Street, no problem with that although it was his first offence.

Back to the court, as the eldest youth was going into court he turned and flicked his cigarette end onto the pavement, as this is quite clearly recorded on the TV, I assume he will be fined £75.

The fact that it's £50 fine for breaking a woman's jaw and £75 for throwing a cigarette on the floor also tests my comprehension of right and wrong!

KEITH DAY
Gornal Wood

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL

dudley.chronicle@
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Code of Practice: Our policy is to correct errors as soon as we can. The Chronicles adhere to the Editors' Code of Practice, which can be seen at

Making a point to help the hedgehogs

WE were saddened, though not surprised, to hear that fewer gardeners are spotting hedgehogs. We have long known hedgehog numbers are in decline. Since the turn of the century numbers have dropped by around a third in urban areas and a half in rural ones. A major factor in their decline is loss and fragmentation of habitat.

We have joined forces with People's Trust for Endangered Species on a project called Hedgehog Street. We ask people to create 13cm square gaps in the bottom of their boundary fences and walls to join up usable habitat, and to ask their neighbours, and their neighbours' neighbours to do the same until the whole street is accessible to hedgehogs! To date we have had over 42,000 people sign up.

To find out more see www.hedgehogstreet.org
FAY VASS
British Hedgehog Preservation Society

Speaker Bercow is out of line

WHO the Hell does he think he is? John Bercow, a puffed-up pipsqueak if ever there was one, who has for years presided over matters in the House of Commons, now believes it is within his authority to decide British foreign policy.

Having welcomed and fawned over some of the world's leaders with the worst possible records on human rights, he has decided that he has to make a stand in the matter of the President of the USA addressing Parliament. Not a peep regarding the visit of the Chinese leader of course.

He welcomed the Emir of Kuwait in a stomach-churning address which commenced: "Your Highness, it is my privilege to welcome you here to our Parliament." This is the leader of a country with a dire record on human rights.

Bercow has ignored the first rule for a speaker, which is to remain neutral.

ALAN M ETHERIDGE
Sedgley

IS YOUR OLD SUITE LOOKING TIRED AND WORN?

FULL RE-UPHOLSTERY SERVICE!

- ✓ 35 Years Experience
- ✓ All Work Guaranteed
- ✓ 1000s of Fabrics
- ✓ Prompt Efficient Service
- ✓ Discount for OAPs

FREE ESTIMATES



We also
Cover Caravan
Cushions, Odd
Chairs, Patio Sets,
Conservatory
Furniture

Chatsworth House, Hayes Lane, Lye,
Nr Stourbridge DY9 8RD

01384 892 018

www.sofastyleupholstery.co.uk

Open Mon - Saturday 10am - 4pm

Ask for details

Quality Kitchens | Bedrooms | Office Furniture
Direct from the manufacturer



EVERYTHING MADE TO ORDER AT TRADE PRICES

CALL AND DISCUSS YOUR DESIGNS WITH NO OBLIGATION

SUPPLY OR
FITTING
AVAILABLE
ALL AT TRADE
PRICES
TOP QUALITY
WORKMANSHIP

From
£995

DKB

FITTED FURNITURE

TOP QUALITY AT TRADE PRICES

DKB

FITTED FURNITURE

444 Brettell Lane, Amblecote, Stourbridge DY8 4BP Tel: 01384 70094
www.dkbfittedfurniture.co.uk info@dkbfittedfurniture.co.uk

CONTEMPORARY & ELEGANT

Bi-fold doors
Fitted Aluminium or uPVC

From **£1800** fitted



VISIT OUR WEBSITE TODAY



Full Range of the
Latest Composite Doors



From **£550** fitted

ENTERPRISE GLASS & GLAZING Ltd of Brierley Hill

Enterprise Glass and Glazing Ltd are based in the Brierley Hill area of the West Midlands and since the early 1980's have built a reputation as a leading installer of quality windows, conservatories and doors direct to the public.

MISTED UNITS?

Replacements,
Glass cut to size...
Telephone today
Free Quotation

01384 571217



*Design & Service
You Can Trust!*

Find us at: **Vine Street, Brierley Hill DY5 1JE** Telephone: **01384 571217** and talk to us today
Fax: **01384 571427** Email: sales@enterpriseglazing.co.uk www.enterpriseglazing.co.uk

No return for Dudley Eye after wrangle over the cost

A GIANT ferris wheel, dubbed the Dudley Eye, will not be returning to the town centre this Easter, despite being a major success last year.

The Dudley Eye will not be coming back to the town this spring because traders and the ride operators have failed to reach an agreement. The arrival of the wheel gained national interest and attracted more than 13,500 people to the town centre. But Dudley traders, who organised the arrival of the attraction last March, said it was unlikely to come back this year after a price could not be agreed.

Splashing out at centre's water disco

CHILDREN can enjoy fun and games at the Crystal Leisure Centre this week during half-term.

The Dudley Council facility in Bell Street, Stourbridge, will host a jam-packed week of activities.

The swimming pool, complete with slides, waves, bubble seat and rapids, will be open every day.

There will also be a bondi-beat water disco tomorrow (Friday), from 3.30pm to 6pm.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, cabinet member responsible for leisure centres, said: "We know how difficult it can be to keep youngsters occupied during the school holiday and that's why we offer a range of fun activities at Crystal Leisure Centre."

"Junior membership which includes swimming, gym access, squash and badminton courts and fitness classes is available for just £15 per month or £150 per year."

Pre-booking at reception is recommended, call (01384) 812800.

Dudley Council's cabinet member for tourism, Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, said: "It was a success last year but, by my understanding, it was to come round every other year. It could be that it returns next year."

Len Lenihan, managing director of Dudley Market Traders' Association, said: "We haven't been able to come to a financial conclusion but we are still hopeful of being able to agree a decision with the operators at a later date."

Convinced

Operators of the ride did not originally want to visit Dudley last year because they felt that the town would not offer them a significant footfall. But traders eventually convinced them and then around 13,500 people turned out to ride the 115ft attraction, beating the original target of 8,000 visitors.

Dudley traders paid around £10,000 for the ride but were hoping for a reduction this year. However, parties have been unable to agree on a price.

The ride earned the nickname the Dudley Eye. It received criticism from some on social media, mocking the panoramic views of the Black Country. TV presenter Piers Morgan joined in the debate, sparking controversy when he commented: "I cannot think of a grimmer panorama than Dudley."

Experts back Aldi's plan for eyesore store



An Aldi supermarket is proposed for the former DIY store at Kingswinford and has won officers' backing

A FORMER DIY store in Kingswinford is a step closer to becoming a supermarket after the plans were backed by planning officers.

The Focus DIY store, in Dudley Road, became an eyesore after standing empty for years. Residents called for action over the boarded-up and run-down property, which has also been occupied by travellers.

Aldi wants to convert the building into its latest Black Country supermarket, as the popular budget chain continues its expansion in the region.

The proposals would see the Focus store converted and the car park upgraded to provide more than 100 spaces.

Aldi aims to create 40 jobs at the new store on the site of a former DIY and garden centre. The site off Dudley Road, Kingswinford, has stood derelict for three years.

The Aldi supermarket would cover 1,350 square metres. It is expected to create both full-time and part-time jobs. The design and access statement submitted as part of the plans says

that vehicle access to the site will remain the same.

The existing main shop entrance will be blocked off and a new lobby created with a path from Dudley Road relocated.

The prospect of a the new store proved popular at a consultation event held in St Mary's Church Centre in Kingswinford last year.

Planning officers are telling Tuesday's planning committee meeting that the development would improve the area and recommend approval.

Charity ball is tribute to submariner

FAMILY, friends and comrades are coming from all over the world to mark the 10th anniversary of the death of Halesowen submariner Paul McCann and raise cash for children.

They will include Commander Iain Breckenridge and crew members who were on the submarine HMS Tireless when disaster struck, claiming the lives of Leading Operator Mechanic McCann, aged 32, and Anthony Hunt-rod, 20, on March 21 2007. They were killed when a device exploded during an operation under the Arctic ice cap.

Keen sportsman Paul, who played cricket for the Royal Navy, had recently got engaged and when tragedy struck was due to leave the Royal Navy. The former Earls High School student intended to marry fiancée Julie Day and move to America. She and her family will be crossing the Atlantic to attend the ball at the Cophthorne Hotel at Merry Hill on March 18.

The Royal Navy team played a charity match against Halesowen Cricket Club in memory of Paul in 2007 which was so successful it prompted his parents Brian and Pauline into creating a charity in his name. It has raised £80,000 to help children in the Halesowen area.

Firms wishing to donate a raffle gift and people wanting to attend can contact Laura Payne at laurasevents @gmail.com.

Comedy night at rugby club to help hospice

COMPTON Hospice's Great Charity Night, featuring comedy acts, takes place on Friday, March 17, at Dudley Kingswinford Rugby Club, on Swindon Road, Wall Heath.

Lee Evans tribute act Ian Jones will be performing as well as Craig Davies and his Comedy Magic show.

Tickets cost £7.50, from www.compton-hospice.org.uk/fundraising/ or call 01902 774500.

Dimplex

Geoff Hill Ltd

Telephone:-
01384 395852
01384 397271



Your West Midlands Dimplex Fire Centre, for all your Electric Fire Needs

Call Our Sales Line On 01384 395852

www.geoffhillltd.co.uk or geoffhillltd@btconnect.com

7 High Street, Amblecote, Stourbridge,
West Midlands, DY8 4DE



Geoff Hill's Charitable Trust helping towards local needy causes

Opening 7 days a week.

Mon-Sat 9am till 5:30pm

Sun 10:30am till 4:30pm

Stained-glass window is back to former glory

A STUNNING stained-glass window in a church known as 'the cathedral of the Black Country' has been restored to its former glory.

An appeal for around £50,000 was launched by parishioners at St Mark's Church, Pensnett, after a large chunk of masonry fell from a window on to the chancel steps during Holy Week in 2014.

Since then money has come in with £18,000 collected through fundraising, boosted by a £10,000 gift by the late church treasurer Robert Morgan.

However, despite delight over the restoration being complete, Reverend Sue Oliver said that about £20,000 still needs to be raised in order to pay for the full cost of its repair.

She said: "The work has now been completed but we are still £18,000-£20,000 short of paying for it unfortunately."

"It means that repairs we need to do for the rest of the church cannot be done in that time.

Concert

"We are currently having a big fundraising push and will be holding a concert on March 11 with the Cradley Heath Male Voice Choir."

Rev Oliver added: "It was nearly three years ago that the piece of stone fell. It was a shock. But now repairs have been done to the glass, and re-fitted."

"The glass had bowed and cracked. The funny thing is that is in better shape now than it ever was before."

The Grade II-listed building, built in the 1840s, is highly regarded for its architecture and is one of three local churches funded by Lord Ward, the Earl of Dudley.

Scaffolding went up around the stained-glass rose window in September.



Before – the rose window at St Mark's



After – the window restored to glory



Rev Sue Oliver inside the 'Cathedral of the Black Country', St Mark's ber. It was finished in recent weeks. Rev Oliver added: "Midlands Construction did a marvellous job with it. St Mark is a large, impressive church in blackened sandstone to the south aisle is a tower almost free-standing. "We now urge anyone to help us with donations, by either coming to



TC

UPHOLSTERY

RE-UPHOLSTERY & LOOSE COVER SPECIALISTS

**SPECIALIST
RE-UPHOLSTERER OF:**

* Wade * Duresta * Vale * Tetra
* Cintree * Bridgecraft
* Parker Knoll

10% OFF all re-upholstery orders taken before end of February



No job too big,
or too small...

**Tailor Made Loose Covers | Full Repair Service |
Free Design Consultation Service | Family Company | No Salesman**

Units 3 & 6 Wollescote Business Park, Crabbe Street, Lye, West Midlands, DY9 8TF

Check out our Gallery Pictures on our new website

www.tcupholstery.co.uk

Tel: 01384 347157 Mob: 07986 612365

Check out our new website:

www.tcupholstery.co.uk

Make the RIGHT decision this Winter and give RYDALE a ring...

RYDALE

WINTER SALE

Windows, Doors, Conservatories, Orangeries, Porches, Fascias and Soffit Boards

Cleaning Services now available to restore all your uPVC products. Guttering and Driveways cleaning available

No deposits or stage payments, you only pay when the installation has been completed

Visit one of the largest conservatory and window showrooms in the UK

Supplied & Fitted... across the Midlands

Repair Service Available



Replace the existing roof on your conservatory and create a comfortable environment and a room you can use all year round



Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry. No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, and that's why we have been in business for more than 30 years.









Guardian Warm Roof



MASSIVE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON MARCH INSTALLATIONS

FREEPHONE 0800 917 6060

www.rydalewindows.co.uk

Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen B62 9LS

**Open Weekdays: 9am to 5:30pm
Saturday: 9am to 4pm Sunday Closed**

WHERE TRADITIONAL ELEGANCE
MEETS MODERN TECHNOLOGY



**KEEPING YOUR HOME AUTHENTIC, SAFE AND ENERGY EFFICIENT THIS WINTER
BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED WINDOWS, DOORS, CONSERVATORIES & ORANGERIES**

We are a professional, family run, local company who have over 35 years year-on-year trading installing quality windows, doors, conservatories and orangeries. We pride ourselves on our high quality standards and that we can offer all our customers total satisfaction on whatever you need.

Wombourne Windows™
ORANGERIES AND CONSERVATORIES

For more information call us now on

0845 603 0334

or visit our website at **www.wombourne-windows.co.uk**



Morlock House, Bridgnorth Road, Wombourne, South Staffs WV5 0AL
Opening Hours: Monday-Thursday 10am-6pm, Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 10am-4pm, Sunday 10am-2pm



Image released in hunt for suspect



This man is being sought by police after CCTV cameras recorded these images from the bus at the time of the attack. POLICE have launched an appeal to trace a man suspected of attacking a passenger on a bus travelling through the Black Country.

The victim was repeatedly punched on the top deck of the number nine bus by the young attacker.

The bus was travelling along the Birmingham Road in Stourbridge at around 11pm on Monday, December 19, at the time of the attack.

The assailant is described being around 5ft 10ins tall and of a slim build.

CCTV cameras on the bus captured the suspect, who was wearing a dark jacket, with yellow letters A and J on the front, and jeans.

The number 9 travels from Birmingham to Stourbridge, via Halesowen and Lye.

West Midlands Police has appealed for anyone who recognises the man or who has any information to contact Detective Constable Laura Wagstaff on 101, extension 812 3033.

Customs in booze raids on dozens of shops

A THREE-DAY blitz by customs officers has uncovered more than 10,000 litres of illicit booze in shops across the Midlands – including Dudley, Wolverhampton and Birmingham.

The haul of mainly beer and wine was seized from shops in a series of raids. It saw more than 50 officers from HM Revenue and Customs team up with trading standards officers in each area, targeting 24 shops.

The duty and VAT evaded by the illegal trade is estimated at £20,000. A van used to transport some of the alcohol was also seized.

Deborah Woodcock, assistant director at HM Revenue and Customs, said: "This is theft from the taxpayer and undermines legitimate traders."

Taskforce

Some 10,638 litres of alcohol, all believed to be illicit, was seized. This included 13 litres of spirits, 1,580 litres of wine and 18,100 cans of beer. Of the 24 premises visited, illegal drink was found at 18.

The raids were part of HMRC's ongoing alcohol taskforce campaign, launched in 2011.

Councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet member for trading standards at Dudley Council said: "Through joint opera-

By Marion Brennan

tions with partners and our own investigations we are working hard to stop the sale of illegal alcohol across our borough.

"We want to give a clear message out to potential offenders that it is not OK to cheat the system and we will do all we can to make sure people don't get away with it."

Councillor Steve Evans, Wolverhampton Council's Cabinet member for city environment, said the authority had already made gains in crackdowns on the sale of illegal cigarettes with more than half a million illicit cigarettes seized in the city.

The raids took place over three days last week.

In the last six years, customs officers nationwide have seized a total of 50 million litres of illicit alcohol with a duty value of £106m, and fined offenders a total of £84m.

ONE OF THE LARGEST STOCKISTS OF CARPET IN THE COUNTRY

Over 200 Part Rolls

ALL LESS 50%

At STD we have the best fitters and we are NEVER undercut on price

Was sq yd

Now sq yd

Apollo	£9.95	£6.95
Majesty bleach cleanable.....	£13.95	£9.95
Sensations Heathers.....	£16.95	£12.95
Waterproof bathroom carpet....	£18.95	£8.36
Contract wilton	£18.95	£8.95

Plus many more great offers



Open 6 days a week 9.00 to 5.30 Sunday 10.30 to 4.00 Closed Wednesdays

Church Street, Brierley Hill DY5 3PT

TELEPHONE:

01384 76448

www.stdcarpets.com

SALE NOW ON

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK 9.00 to 5.30; Sunday 10.30 to 4.00; Closed Wednesdays

10% OFF All end rolls with this voucher



BATHROOM & PLUMBING STORES

your local trade and retail merchants

HUGE RANGE OF BATHROOMS



HUGE SELECTION OF KITCHENS



SPECIALIST PLUMBING PRODUCTS



DRAINAGE | PIPE | FITTINGS | PRESS FIT

BRIERLEY HILL BRANCH
UNITS 11/12 MOUNT PLEASANT
QUARRY BANK,
BRIERLEY HILL DY5 2YS
01384 74949

TIPTON BRANCH
NOW OPEN
UNIT 15, ECLIPSE TRADING ESTATE
SEDGLEY ROAD WEST, TIPTON DY4 8DQ
0121 520 8189

BOILERS | RADIATORS | HEATING



TOOLS | FIXINGS | FASTENERS | SILICONES



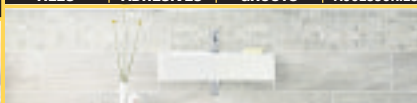
ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES



WET WALL PANELS



TILES | ADHESIVES | GROUTS | ACCESSORIES



FLOORING



OPENING HOURS
7.30 am-5.00 pm MON-FRI
8.00 am-5.00 pm SATURDAY
CLOSED SUNDAYS

• AMPLE PARKING
• FREE LOCAL DELIVERY
• SPECIALIST ADVICE
• HUGE STOCKS



Are you considering setting up a group in your local Community?

Age UK Dudley can offer you support.

Age UK Dudley, through Public Health, is looking to support not for profit community, faith and activity groups to develop and establish new activities for people over 50 across the Dudley Borough.

If you require support, resources, training or start-up to establish your group please contact us for details. If you are successful our simple application process should enable you to establish your group in the near future.

For more information and to apply please contact the Leap over 50 project, Age UK Dudley, Head office, 3 Dudley Court North, The Waterfront, Level Street, Brierley Hill DY5 1XP on 01384 343535 or email; leapover50@ageukdudley.org.uk

Halesowen Fireplaces
AT THE HEART OF YOUR HOME

Complete Fireplace Packages from £499 (including fire)



STORAGE HEATERS NOW IN STOCK

For a range of Gas and Electric Fires and Surrounds visit our showroom (opposite Tyre City on Long Lane)

Telephone 0121 559 9985



Unit 14, Long Lane Trading Estate,
Long Lane, Halesowen B62 9LD
www.halesowenfireplaces.co.uk

JUMBLE SALE

AGE CONCERN STOURBRIDGE

4th March 2017

Starts 10.30am Admission 50p

The Elton Centre
Off Parkfield Road
Stourbridge
01384 - 390065

Next to bus station and railway ★ Free parking



KETTLE FROM £5



PIFCO CORDLESS VACUUMS



KETTLE AND TOASTER SETS



LIGHT WEIGHT UPRIGHTS FROM £25



STAR BUY!

ALL OFFERS EXPIRE SATURDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2017 WHILE STOCKS LAST S/C



TOASTER FROM £5



MICROWAVES FROM £25



LARGE HALOGEN OVENS ONLY £35



HOOVER CORDLESS VACUUMS



WARMLITE ELECTRIC BLANKETS
ANY SIZE
SINGLE, DOUBLE OR KING
£5
WITH THIS ADVERT



Kettle and Toaster Man
TRADE WAREHOUSE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Unit 2C, Albion Works, Moor St., Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 3SZ

Tel: 01384 483 286

Est. Over 20 Years * OPEN: Mon-Fri 8am-4pm, Sat 8am-12pm

We specialise in finding you the best deals available on daily basis. We stock electrical and other amazing retail products at up to 90% off the normal retail selling price.

MANY MORE OFFERS INSTORE....



kettleandtoasterman.co.uk

Rush-hour delays as M5 central barrier is smashed

RUBBLE was left strewn across the M5 after a lorry smashed into the central barrier.

The crash, between junctions two for Oldbury and three for Halesowen, led to major delays during last Wednesday's evening rush-hour.

Lanes either side of the central barrier remained closed off into the following morning as debris was cleared and repairs made to the barrier. Large chunks of concrete came loose from the barrier dividing the two carriageways on the major route through the Black Country.

A light blue Scania truck smashed into the central wall, causing major damage to its front end. An Audi car was also caught up in the incident. Police and ambulance crews were called as traffic backed up at around 5.15pm.

One man was described as 'walking wounded' and was checked over by medics and taken to Sandwell Hospital with minor injuries.

The incident came just two hours after two drivers were hurt in a crash caused by a car going the wrong way down a slip road at Spaghetti Junction in Birmingham at 3.30pm. An 80-year-old man was said to have been driving the wrong way.

In another incident a teenage cyclist was taken to hospital after being hit by a car in Robert Wynd, Woodcross, near Coleley at 7.40am on Friday.

The Midlands Air Ambulance was called to the scene and landed on grassland nearby. Paramedics treated the male cyclist, aged 17, for head injuries sustained in the accident. He was taken by ambulance to New Cross Hospital.



The central reservation that was damaged by a lorry on the M5 between Oldbury and Halesowen

Jobless benefit claims on rise across borough

THE number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance and other unemployment benefits rose by 95 in the Dudley borough in January.

It follows a rise in the number of people unemployed in the West Midlands in the three months to December of 17,000 to 168,000.

Nationally a record number of people with more than 31.8 million adults in a job - 300,000 more than a year ago.

Wolverhampton saw the biggest rise in claimants of 135 to 6,565 (4.1 per cent of the working population) with Dudley up to 5,690 (3.5 per cent). Walsall had a rise of just 10 to 4,830 (2.9 per cent) whilst Sandwell bucked the trend in the Black Country with the fall of 10 to 7,065 (3.5 per cent).

Dudley Council finance boss Councillor David Sparks said: "Any increase in the number of people unemployed is cause for concern. A rise of three per cent is alarming and indicates a permanent trend."

David Jenkins, of JobCentre Plus, said the roll out of Universal Credit added to the rise in claimants.

Traders are urged to contribute in town levy

BUSINESS leaders and councillors have welcomed a move that should see trade in Halesowen benefit from hundreds of thousands of pounds thanks to a new levy.

The Halesowen Business Improvement District (BID) aims to raise money each year to boost trade in the town via special events and other ways to promote the town centre.

The voluntary BID scheme, which has now been approved by Dudley Council bosses, will see firms encouraged to join forces to create a single company, with each member paying a levy - a small percentage of a business's rateable value - to finance BID.

Members will then get to decide how the money is spent and the cash can be used to fund special events, improve security as well as promote the town and make it more attractive.

The proposal, put forward by Halesowen BID organisers, supported by the Halesowen Chamber of Trade and other organisations, estimates that approximately £120,000 each year could be generated via the levy.



Councillor Khurshid Ahmed

fantastic to see that the council has taken the initiative to improve the local area to invest in their town and to increase the footfall.

"The BID levy will give businesses the opportunity, the power, to harness money in their area for their area."

"Halesowen is the first township in the district to take on the BID and I hope that others will soon follow suit to improve their areas and really take ownership of their towns."

Steve Fitzpatrick, vice chair of Halesowen Chamber of Trade said: "We're absolutely over the moon. This is a real step forward for the town centre. I would encourage business owners to back the BID and make Halesowen the first town in Dudley to adopt the levy."

Initiative

Business owners in the town will now be encouraged to vote for the introduction of the levy, with councillors to visit them in the coming weeks at their premises to go through the plans. A business plan will also be circulated to owners to enable them to see how money from the levy can be used for the benefit of all.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, Dudley's cabinet member for planning and economic development, said: "I'm absolutely thrilled that the proposal has been given the go-ahead. It's just so

Pub hit by kitchen fire

A BREWERS Fayre pub in Stourbridge was evacuated after a fire broke out in the kitchen.

Flames took hold at the pub, which is next to the Premier Inn in Birmingham Street, last Thursday.

Around 50 staff and diners were inside when the fire broke out in the grill area at around 12.30pm. Firefighters from Brierley Hill and Stourbridge stations arrived to tackle the blaze. Crews left the scene around an hour later.

A spokesperson said: "We can confirm that the Brewers Fayre restaurant in Stourbridge town centre was evacuated. This was caused by a small, isolated fire which broke out in the kitchen and lead to the fire alarm being activated. The fire was quickly extinguished with the appropriate equipment used by the general manager of the restaurant. Nobody was injured and there is no major damage to the building."

WINTER Sale

FOR THE END OF OUR WINTER SALE

EXTRA discount

off our already low SALE PRICES

FINAL DAYS TO SAVE for EXTRA discount throughout the whole store... plus pay nothing until Autumn 2017, with no deposit and no interest ever!



Fiona corner group. WAS £949 SALE £749

EXTRA discount price £699 SAVE £250



Light oak dining table & 4 faux leather chairs. WAS £1099 SALE £869

EXTRA discount price £499 SAVE £600



Natural oak effect triple door robe. WAS £399 SALE £299

EXTRA discount price £199 SAVE £200



Rest Assured large luxury storage divan set. WAS £649 SALE £499

EXTRA discount price £399 SAVE £250

WILLIAM & SONS

www.williamandsons.co.uk

Level Street | Merry Hill | Dudley | West Midlands | DY5 1UA | T. 01384 77444 OPENING HOURS: Monday to Friday 10-5.30pm Saturday 10-6pm Sunday 11-5pm

Alstons Baker

bardi

BUOYANT

G

Harrison

HTL

KINGSTON

Lebus

Myers

rauch

REDFORD

REDFORD

REDFORD

REDFORD

REDFORD

REDFORD

0% APR Representative *Deferred interest free credit offer available on orders over £399. Representative Example: Cash Price £399, Deposit £0, Total Amount of Credit £399, Duration of the Agreement 18 months, 12 x Monthly Repayments of £33.25 starting 6 months after delivery or collection. Annual Rate of Interest 0%. Representative APR 0%. Total Amount Payable £399. Written details available on request. Credit is subject to status. Terms & Conditions apply. Price Match Promise Terms & Conditions apply. Ask in store or see our website for further details. All offers subject to availability E&OE.



Don't ignore the warning signs.

If you've been suffering from tummy troubles such as **diarrhoea, bloating, discomfort or anything else that just doesn't feel right for three weeks or more**, it could be a sign of cancer.

It's probably nothing serious, but finding cancer early makes it more treatable, so **tell your doctor.**



Search 'Be Clear on Cancer'

BRETTELL LANE STOVES & FLUES

70 STOVES AND 18 DEMONSTRATION MODELS



- All leading manufacturers
- Call in for a FREE Quotation
- Full Installation Service
- All work carried out by our own installers

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM
Just 1 mile from Merry Hill
Open Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm
Unit H, Emms Court (right at the end),
Meeting Lane Ind. Estate,
off Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill DY5 3LB

TEL: 01384 263290



or see our new website **www.westmidlandsstoves.com**

Canal reduced to trickle by maintenance



Who pulled the plug? But the water was drained away for essential maintenance work on the canal in Wordsley

DREDGING work has begun on the Stourbridge Canal, as part of ongoing work to renovate the waterways in the Black Country.

This was the scene at the locks in Wordsley, close to The White House Cone Museum of Glass

Earlier this month it was announced that the Canal &

River Trust was carrying out essential dredging works on the 200-year-old waterway network via Land & Water Services Ltd.

Dredging is vital to keep the waterways open for navigation, as well as ensuring canals are safe and in good order, dealing with vegetation and improving wildlife habitats.

Hospice staff move for revamp

STAFF from a hospice in the Black Country will relocate to another centre to allow work on the site's £3 million upgrade to begin this Spring.

Mary Stevens Hospice in Stourbridge is due to undergo a major refurbishment to its day services unit off the Hagley Road.

While renovations are taking place non-clinical staff will move into the

Mary Stevens Centre, formerly the Mary Stevens Maternity Home, located behind the hospice.

The move comes after an offer by Age Concern, on the ground floor of Mary Stevens Centre, to accommodate the hospice's fundraising and lottery team.

A lease was agreed for the premises by the Ernest Stevens Trust Management Committee last week.

The hospice intends to use the cen-

tre's ground floor dining room wing for their staff, whilst they temporarily relocate the day unit to offices in the hospice's lower car park.

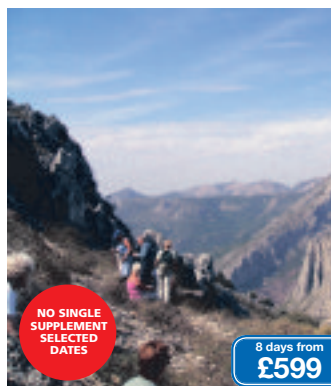
The hospice plans to improve the dining room wing, getting contractors in to redecorate, create male and female toilets and a new tea point, while the main corridor is refurbished.

The hospice will also be required to make a contribution towards utility costs and repairs.

StarReader Travel

Hand picked holidays with you in mind

Your Chronicle
in association with
**Preferred
Travel Services**



NO SINGLE
SUPPLEMENT
SELECTED
DATES

8 days from
£599

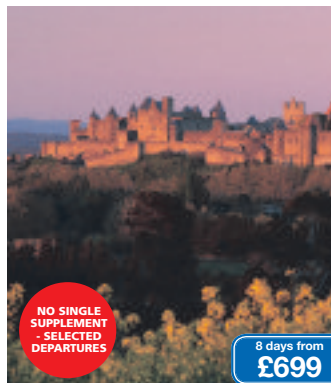
Walking Holiday Collection

Flying Direct from Birmingham
Selected dates March 2017 to March 2018

Our collection is designed to give you as much flexibility as possible - walk a lot, walk a little - the choice is yours. Either way on a Preferred Travel Services Walking Holiday you get the best of all worlds - recharge the batteries on a holiday, discover so much about the local culture, flora and fauna with an expert guide, enjoy the scenery of Europe's most picturesque countryside and beauty spots, and keep fit at the same time! All this in the company of like-minded travellers from all over the UK.

Price includes

- Return direct flights from Birmingham
- 7 nights hotel accommodation - mostly half board
- 3 fully guided walks
- Options to extend by 7 nights on many holidays
- Services of a local representative



NO SINGLE
SUPPLEMENT
- SELECTED
DEPARTURES

8 days from
£699

Carcassonne, Cathar Country & Catalonia

Flying Direct from Birmingham
Selected dates Apr to Jun, Sep & Oct 2017

Cathar country in Languedoc-Roussillon is a land of legend, mystery and stunning scenery. In Carcassonne you will find the most complete medieval walled city in Europe. As well as getting to know this fascinating part of France you will also spend a couple of days on the Spanish coast with a chance to visit the Roman town of Tarragona.

Price includes

- Return direct flights from Birmingham
- 7 nights HB hotel accommodation (4 in France & 3 in Spain)
- Full day excursion to Carcassonne and Rennes-le-Chateau
- Free time in Figueras and Barcelona
- Services of a tour representative

Organised by Preferred Travel Services. ABTA No. W3692. Atol No. 5537
Single supplements apply. Subject to availability.

For more information or to book, please call: 0116 279 3929 quote WEXP
or visit: www.preferredtravels.com/wexp

Percy finally added to roll of school's war dead

A FORGOTTEN hero of the First World War will take his rightful place on a memorial at his old school.

Former Dudley Grammar pupil Alwyne Percy Moulton died in the Palestine Campaign in the summer of 1918.

But his name does not appear on the school's monument to former students who died in the conflict.

Dudley Museum officer Adrian Durkin said: "It's a mystery as to why he has been missed off and I can only guess it was because he left the area to work in Coventry some years before the outbreak of the war."

"Whatever the reason, it is only right we set the record straight by celebrating someone who died for his country."

War medals, photographs and school reports were only recently passed to the soldier's closest living relative, 82-year-old Ron Moulton, of Pedmore, by a distant relative.

It formed part of a Great War centenary exhibition at Dudley Museum until the building was closed by the council last autumn.

The memorabilia was originally collected by Percy's sister, Ivy, who lived in Wolverhampton, before moving to Surrey.

Saddler

According to research carried out by Mr Moulton, Percy as he was known in the family was born in 1886 in Horsley Heath, Tipton, the son of a saddler. He attended Dudley Grammar School, where end-of-term reports showed he was a bright pupil. On leaving, he became a railway clerk at Coventry.

Despite no Scottish ancestry, Percy became a member of the 2nd/14th Battalion of the London Scottish Regiment, largely made up of railwaymen.



He served with the London Scots



Percy Moulton's war medals



Ron Moulton with the plaque honouring his great-uncle, soldier Percy Moulton

He fought in the Palestine Campaign where the Allies battled to make gains against the Turks of the Ottoman Empire.

In March 1918, with Jericho taken, the regiment was tasked, along with New Zealanders from the Anzac Mounted Division, to cross the River Jordan, capture Amman and destroy the Hejaz railway. Success would also

assist the Arab Revolt, famously led by British officer TE Lawrence, known as Lawrence of Arabia. But unseasonal heavy rain turned the ground into a quagmire and the attack failed.

The following day, May 1, the Turks counter-attacked and Percy, aged 32, was killed by machine gun fire, one of 1,600 Allied casualties during the four-day battle.

YOUR CHOICE BATHROOMS

"Our company is owned and run by local tradesmen meaning the work is carried out properly and on time. We strive to keep our prices as low as possible in order to keep within the budgets of retired, disabled and working families which make up 95% of our customers."

**FEBRUARY & MARCH
FITTING DATES
NOW BEING
RESERVED**

YOUR ARMCHAIR GUIDE TO A NEW BATHROOM



• DECISION

Phone us for a No Obligation Quote (Daytime / Evenings or Weekends)

• QUOTATION

Design/Planning & Materials & Suite all chosen in your home & an on the spot price given.

• INSTALLATION

The Job is started & completed in around 5 days & left clean & tidy with all rubbish removed

• INSPECTION

Everything is thoroughly checked with yourself at the end of the job to your satisfaction.

• COMPLETION

Only when you are delighted with the finished job, do we accept your final balance.

• RECOMMENDATION

We hope YOUR CHOICE will be your friends choice

Brierley Hill Bathrooms



Bathrooms Fully Fitted

from **£3,950 inc. VAT**

Special help for the disabled and elderly
Baths removed and shower cubicle, seat, shower and tiles installed

from **£1,950**

• Large Showroom • Helpful Staff • Free Survey

01384 484088

10/11 Garratt Street, Brierley Hill DY5 1JU

www.brierleyhillbaths.co.uk

EXAMPLE FULL JOB FOR £3850.00

- 90x90 Quadrant Cubicle with low level tray
- 15 SQM Wall Tiles
- Tiled Floor
- Replacement Shower
- New Basin & WC

EXTRA DISCOUNT FOR OUR RETIRED & DISABLED CUSTOMERS

DISABLED SPECIAL

Are you having problems getting in & out of your bath? We will remove the Bath & Fit an easy access low level round, square or oblong cubicle & Tiled inside.

Supply a new replacement shower A Folding Seat & Grab Rail

ALL FOR ONLY £2150.00

VAT FREE IN QUALIFYING CASES

FOR FREE FRIENDLY ADVICE AND A WARM WELCOME PHONE US NOW TO BOOK YOUR FREE SURVEY



FREE FULL SIZE CHROME HEATED LADDER RAIL FITTED WITH EVERY BATHROOM SOLD

Unit 4, Charterfield Shopping Centre, Charterfield Drive, Kingswinford DY6 7SH

01384 287222

Showroom also at: 39 Lichfield Road, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton WV11 1TW

01902 861908

SHOWROOM OPEN 9am-5pm 6 Days a Week

CASH **Hawthorne & Walker** CARRY

22.02.17

Small Whole Fresh
Boneless Sirloins
90 Day Matured
£5.99lb

Whole Fresh
Beef Fillets
£7.99lb

Homemade
80% min
pork, low fat
pork sausage

Whole Fresh
Boneless Rumps
of Beef
£3.79lb
Scotch

Fresh
Chicken
Fillets
11lb for
£20.00

Whole Fresh
Ribeyes
~~Was £6.99lb~~
Now £4.99lb

Fresh
Boneless
Turkey
Crowns
£2.79lb

Whole Boneless
Danish Crown
Gammons
~~Was £2.28lb~~
Now £1.89lb

Whole Boneless
Pork Loins
R/on or R/off
~~Was £1.99lb~~
Now £1.59lb

**FRESH
ENGLISH
BONELESS
PORK LEGS**
£1.49lb

Fresh Lamb
Leg Chops
£3.99lb

2 Fresh Lamb
Shanks
£6.98
for 2

Fresh English
Boneless
Lamb Legs
£3.99lb

Black Angus Beef Roasts

Hormone Free
Grain Fed Beef

£3.29lb

approx 12lb

FREEZER PACK £70.00
2 BEEF JOINTS, 2 LAMB JOINTS 2 PORK
JOINTS, 2LB BEST PORK SAUSAGES,
RUMP STEAKS, 2LB HOME CURED BACON,
LAMB CHOPS, PORK STEAKS

Home-made Pork Sausage - minimum Pork content 70%
Pork & Red Onion Sausage • Tomato Sausage
(Fresh Red Onion, Tomatoes, No Flavouring)
Pork & Black Pudding

5lb Packs of Locally Cured Short Back Bacon
Was £8.99 per pack **NOW £7.95 per pack**
Smoked **NOW £8.95 per pack**

10 Loin Lamb Chops **£8.99**
10 Pork Loin Steaks **£7.99**
10 Sirloin Steaks **£17.99**
10 Ribeye Steaks **£17.99**

WWW.HAWTHORNEWALKER.CO.UK | EMAIL: HAWTHORNEANDWALKER@GMAIL.COM

01384 633648 (24 hr answer phone) or 01384 353550

Opening times: Mon: 9am-1pm Tues: 8am-5pm, Wed & Sat: 8am-1pm, Thurs & Fri: 8am-5.30pm

TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME **172-6 HIGH STREET, QUARRY BANK** ALL SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY
FREE HOME DELIVERY ON ORDERS OVER £50

Most Credit Cards taken - Visa, Mastercard, etc

NHS DENTISTRY CARE MODERN NHS DENTISTRY WITH CARE

Look
great &
feel
great in
2017

WE ALSO OFFER:

- BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINES APPLIED
- ONE TO ONE QUALITY CARE
- DIGITAL XRAY
- SAME DAY URGENT BOOKINGS
- ORTHODONTIC CARE
- YOUR LOCAL CHILD FRIENDLY DENTIST



RICHMOND HOUSE DENTAL PRACTISE

Book your appointment today

01384 390111



All work guaranteed

135 High Street, Ambecote

Stourbridge DY8 4YY

www.eliassmilecentre.co.uk

We have many beautiful large breed dogs
looking for that special forever home.

They need homes where there is space and understanding
of the requirements for their particular breed.
No children under five. Home check and rehoming fee apply.



BLAKE



OSCAR

Help all your local homeless
animals by popping into our local charity shop
to purchase furniture, clothes and bric-a-brac.

Our warehouse also has beautiful pieces of furniture for
upcycling. Every penny for everything sold goes to
help animals in our care.

Donations of furniture,
clothes, bric-a-brac
are always welcome!

Volunteers
urgently needed
for warehouse

Visit our Shop
20 High Street,
Cradley Heath B64 5HG
Open Daily

Warehouse
Unit 3, Providence Street,
Cradley Heath B64 5DR
Open 12-3 Saturdays

If you are an experienced foster home for
dogs / cats please call us on: 07919 607028

www.wildacrescue.co.uk

01384 394 666

MOLIANO'S Pizzas, Kebabs & Burgers

FREE DELIVERY
Deliveries start at 5pm
Minimum Order For Delivery £8.00 Within 3 Miles Radius

ORDER ONLINE WE ARE ON JUST EAT
13 MARKET STREET,
STOURBRIDGE DY8 1AB

MOLIANO'S DEALS
FAMILY BARGAIN PACKS

Any 16" Pizza, Any 10" Pizza, Any Garlic Bread,
1 Regular Fries, 1 Nachos, Coleslaw or Coleslaw
Salad and bottle of drink **£16.99**

MEAL DEAL FOR 2
ANY 10" PIZZA WITH 4 TOPPINGS, ANY GARLIC
BREAD, COLESLAW, FRIES &
2 x CANS OF DRINK **£9.99**

MEAL DEAL FOR 3
ANY 12" PIZZA WITH 1 Regular Fries and +
Nachos, ANY GARLIC BREAD,
FRESH SALAD & BOTTLE OF DRINK **£12.99**

MID WEEK SPECIAL (Mon-Thurs)
ANY 16" PIZZA, 1 x REG FRIES, 4 PCS Chicken
Strips, COLESLAW & BOTTLE OF DRINK **£13.49**

01384 394 666

WIN!
£25
Closing date 03/03/17

TO SPEND WITH ANY ADVERTISER ON THIS PAGE!!!

To be in with a chance of winning all you have to do is answer the questions in this panel and send in your answers to the address on the coupon.

FOR ONE WEEK ONLY!

- Where can you get cash & carry prices on top quality meats?
- Where is Wild Acre Rescue warehouse based?
- Who's phone number ends in 666?
- Where is Stourvalley table top sale?
- Who can give you a perfect smile?
- Who's fitted bedroom furniture makes your dreams come true?

Susan Jones Competition Stourbridge Chronicle Closing Date 03/03/17
Express and Star, Stourbridge DY8 1AB

Mr/Mrs/Miss First Name Surname

Address

Postcode Tel No Email

I have read the rules and agree to abide by them. Signature

I would like to spend my prize money with

Rules: Entrants must be 18 or over. Closing date for entries is 03/03/17. The winner will be notified by post. The first correct entry opened after the closing date will receive the prize. There is no cash alternative to the prize. The prize will be issued in cheque form made payable to the advertiser as chosen by the winner. Once issued the cheque cannot be altered and must be cashed within two months of receipt. Employees or their immediate relatives of the MNA group of companies may NOT enter. The Editor's decision is final. The winner must be prepared to take part in any publicity.



REGISTERED
CHARITY
No. 514904

STOUR VALLEY CAT RESCUE

TABLE TOP SALE

at

HAGLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE
Worcester Lane, Hagley

Saturday 25th February 2017

10am - 12 noon

ADMISSION FREE

LOTS OF INTERESTING STALLS AND GREAT BARGAINS

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

Please come along and support us

For further information call Anita 01384 375832



BESPOKE FITTED BEDROOMS

Why choose us?

- Local family business
- FREE design service (we come to you)
- Styles to suit every taste and budget, from the smallest room to master en suites
- We build and fit all of our bedrooms

Showroom at:

**Unit 6, Two Woods Trading Estate, Talbotts Lane,
Brierley Hill DY5 2YX** (1 mile from Merry Hill Centre)

Call us today on: **01384 482662** or **07802 451232**

to arrange a **FREE** visit and quotation or click onto **www.martyn4newideas.co.uk**

**MARTYN
4
NEW
IDEAS**

More awareness of exploitation

YOUNG people and commuters will be encouraged to get to know the signs of grooming and child sexual exploitation (CSE) during a special week of action.

Advisers will be out and about in transport hubs this week raising awareness of the crime and the signs people need to be aware of.

The team will be at Halesowen bus station today (Thursday) from 10am to 3pm.

The week of action is the latest from the 'see me, hear me' campaign. Dudley's scheme will join forces with Warwickshire's Something's Not Right and Staffordshire's Know About CSE campaigns.

Fully endorsed and supported by British Transport Police, there will also be posters in bus and train stations, Metro tram stops and on buses travelling around the region.

Childline has counsellors available at www.childline.org.uk or find more information at the www.seeme-hearme.org.uk website.

Youngsters find a recipe for success



Chloe Beswick, aged 14, of Dudley, at work in the kitchen

TWO aspiring young chefs will represent the region in the next stage of a cookery competition.

Isabelle Smith, 12, and Joseph Little, 17, were crowned joint winners of the Rotary District Young Chef final at Shrewsbury College and will go forward to compete in the regional finals next month in Rugby.

Each of the 10 competitors in the regional final had to plan and prepare, cook and serve a healthy two-course meal costing no more than £10 in total.

The competitors, aged 12 to 17, came from across the Midlands, including Chloe Beswick, aged 14, from Dudley.

Joseph, of New College Telford, said he was delighted to progress in the competition. Isabelle, from Leek, said she had been helping her mother and grandmother in the kitchen since she was two.

Judges included Andrew Birch, head chef at Fishmore Hall Hotel, Ludlow, Wendy Barnard, of Brewood & District Inner Wheel, and Tony Robinson, of Ludlow Rotary Club. Rotarian John Sayer, district governor, congratulated the competitors.

Inspectors praise mental health trust

THE trust which provides mental health services across the Black Country has been praised after a Care Quality Commission inspection saw it go from 'requires improvement' to 'good'.

The CQC inspected services at the Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, which provides inpatient and community mental health services, in October.

Now the trust has been rated as 'good overall' by the health watchdog after being given the rating for safety, effectiveness, responsiveness and leadership. It was previously inspected in November 2015 when it was rated as requires improvement.

The CQC's Dr Paul Lelliott said: "We were impressed by the trust's response to our previous inspection and found a number of improvements had taken place. This is why we are now able to change its rating from requires improvement to good."

Black Country tycoon secures £2m for online pound shop

THE Black Country retail tycoon behind the Poundland chain is to take his latest venture to the next level after securing a £2 million cash injection.

Steve Smith's online discount retailer Poundshop.com, based in Dudley, is set to expand operations after receiving funding from investment group Foresight.

Willenhall-born Mr Smith founded Poundland with his father Keith in the early 1990s, before selling the business for £50m in 2000.

The multi-millionaire, who lives in

Shropshire, said the cash boost would enable Poundshop.com to expand.

It comes after Poundland, which was sold last year to South African retailer Steinhoff International in a £597 million deal, announced it was stopping the sale of goods online.

Mr Smith said: "When I founded Poundland 26 years ago, everyone said it will never work, but belief and determination created the multi-billion pound retail industry we know today.

"Retail has changed enormously with the introduction of e-commerce, each year more and more people are shopping online. My enthusiasm for shopper value has not changed and I

am looking forward to taking single price shopping to the next level."

Mr Smith runs the firm alongside his 21-year-old son, Ashley. Mr Smith started out working on Bilston market with his family, and after setting up his first discount shop in West Bromwich, went on to open the first Poundland store in December 1990. By the time Mr Smith sold the business it employed more than 5,500 workers. It now employs 18,000 people, has almost 900 stores and posted revenue of £1.3 billion last year.

Poundshop.com was launched in February 2014 in partnership with Poundworld.



Millionaire Steve Smith

Time to design zoo-venir mug

TO celebrate its 80th anniversary year, Dudley Zoo is asking for its arty young visitors to create a unique 'zoo-venir'.

The popular attraction is asking youngsters aged 15 and under to get creative and design a colourful zoo-themed mug to mark their celebratory year. The winning entry will be made into a limited edition mug, which will then be sold in the Safari Shop.

Retail manager, Isobel Blackwell said: "This is a unique opportunity to design a piece of Dudley Zoo merchandise in our anniversary year and form part of our zoo history. We're encouraging children to get creative and show 80 years of Dudley Zoo in their design.

Application forms can be downloaded at www.dudleyzoo.org.uk/create-unique-zoovenir or collected from the zoo entrance. Closing date is March 31.

Easy Floors

The Flooring Experts

- Laminate
- Engineered
- Solid Wood
- Carpet & Vinyls

Fantastic offers for all your flooring needs



Laminate / Wood flooring from
£4.99
Sq Mtre
PLUS MANY MORE OFFERS



New Carpet Department
Heavy domestic from
£6.98
Sq Mtre
PLUS MANY MORE OFFERS



MEASURING AND FITTING SERVICE AVAILABLE

Easy Floors, 202 Dudley Road, Halesowen B63 3NR • 0121 585 8348
(Next to The Big Pet Store)

Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 9am - 7pm, Sat 9am - 6pm, Sun 10am - 4pm



Norman Powell, seen at the RAF Museum, Cosford, by a Vickers Valiant bomber of 49 Squadron



Norman gets up close to the Valiant, with the squadron badge



Britain's first hydrogen bomb explodes on Christmas Island

Norman turned down chance to be part of history as bomb is dropped

SUN, sea, sand – apart from the small matter of a nuclear explosion or two, it was a free holiday of a lifetime.

But 60 years ago this month Norman Powell, then of Oldbury, turned down the invitation to take a trip to an exotic and remote island, and so missed the chance to witness history – the detonation of Britain's first hydrogen bomb.

He preferred not to go as he was courting and, as he went on to marry that young lady, it was a decision which changed the course of his life.

Standing at the RAF Museum at Cosford in the shadow of the very Vickers Valiant bomber which had a significant part in his tale, Norman, aged 79 reflects on his fateful choice. I was living then at Thompson Road at Langley in Oldbury, and served 18 months of my National Service in 49 Squadron at RAF Wittering in Cambridgeshire.

"At that time 49 Squadron had been as-

MEMORY LANE

Report by Toby Neal

signed to the task of testing the nuclear hydrogen bomb over the middle of the Pacific Ocean in the spring of 1957.

"The operation was, of course, very hush-hush and us lower ranks were kept completely in the dark about the details of the operation.

Courting

"In the February of that year a number of us young National Servicemen were asked if we would like to be flown to Christmas Island to witness the detonation of the bomb.

"We were informed that we would not have anything to do out there but lounge around in the sun, sea and sand.

"I declined to volunteer because I was courting a local village girl at that time – she's now my wife of 58 years – and I must say I am glad I didn't because numerous

witnesses consequently suffered illnesses related to radiation in their later years."

"The nuclear bomb was dropped from a Vickers Valiant piloted by Wing Commander Kenneth Hubbard who was our commanding officer at RAF Wittering at that time." It is this same Valiant which is displayed in the National Cold War Exhibition at the museum with the names of the crew and 49 Squadron's badge on the side of the fuselage.

Norman, now living in Bucknell, Shropshire had worked in the workshop at the base, and not on the aircraft, but was able to observe the V-bombers' comings and goings as they went on rolling patrols to be on constant readiness with Britain's nuclear deterrent.

Britain's first hydrogen bomb was dropped by the Valiant south of Christmas Island in May 1957 and there followed a series of other atomic tests. Its flying career ended in December 1964 when all Valiants were grounded because of structural problems. It came to Cosford in 2005.



Norman, front right, with some of his National Service colleagues from 60 years ago

Cousins
a true family business
Sponsored by

WOLVERHAMPTON
MAGAZINE

WEDDING FAIR

SUNDAY 12TH MARCH
11AM - 3PM

THE MOUNT HOTEL,
TETTENHALL WOOD,
WOLVERHAMPTON,
WV6 8HL.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
DEANA JONES ON 01902 319693
LEAH EDMUNDS ON 01902 319619

Quote: JGRT

Your Chronicle in association with **Just go! HOLIDAYS**

<p>DISCOVER THE LOVELY ENGLISH LAKE DISTRICT</p> <p>Mon 8 to Fri 12 May</p> <p>Your break includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast at the Seacote Hotel, St Bees ✓ Entertainment on some nights ✓ Heritage train journey on the Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway ✓ Lake Windermere cruise from Ambleside to Bowness-on-Windermere ✓ Excursions to Muncaster Castle and Gardens & Grasmere ✓ Optional excursion to Keswick (£6.99pp) ✓ Return coach travel from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge <p>5 Day Break was £319 now £289</p>	<p>HAYLING ISLAND WARNER ENTERTAINMENT BREAK</p> <p>Mon 15 to Fri 19 May</p> <p>Your break includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast at the Warner Lakeside Coastal Village, Hayling Island ✓ Entertainment every night ✓ Activities in resort ✓ Excursions to Portsmouth & Winchester ✓ Optional excursion to Arundel & Bognor Regis (£6.99pp) ✓ Return coach travel from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge <p>5 Day Break was £319 now £294</p>	<p>THE FLYING SCOTSMAN, THE RAILWAY CHILDREN & THE YORKSHIRE DALES</p> <p>Wed 5 to Fri 7 Apr</p> <p>Your break includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 2 nights dinner, bed and breakfast at our selected hotel ✓ Train journey behind the Flying Scotsman on the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway ✓ Visits to Skipton, Grassington & Haworth ✓ Return coach travel from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge <p>3 Day Break was £199 now £194</p>
<p>SAVE £30 PER PERSON SAVE £25 PER PERSON SAVE £5 PER PERSON</p> <p>08432 244 217 justgohols justgoholidays.com/RT @justgoholidays</p> <p><small>Calls to 08 numbers will cost 7 pence per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Calls from mobiles may vary. Single supplements and terms apply</small></p>		

House prices are on the increase

HOUSE prices in the West Midlands ended last year at around £12,000 higher on average than when the year started.

The typical property value in the region was £181,000, said the report by the Office for National Statistics with other bodies.

Across the UK house price growth was strongest in England, where prices increased by 7.7 per cent over the year to December, taking the average price to £236,000.

Across the English regions, house price growth ranged from 11.3 per cent in East Anglia to a 4.1 per cent in the North East, putting the 7.1 per cent rise across the West Midlands in the middle ground. In Dudley a 5.1 per cent rise over the year took prices to £155,824 while in Sandwell they were up just 4.3 per cent to £130,004. In Wolverhampton prices rose 7.4 per cent to £135,018 on average, while in Walsall they were up 8.2 per cent to £149,268.

More evidence links football to dementia, say Astle family

A DAUGHTER of Albion legend Jeff Astle has said evidence that heading footballs is linked to dementia is ‘mounting and mounting’ after a new study offered more weight to the theory.

Dawn Astle has called for authorities governing the sport to stop pushing the issue ‘under the carpet’ after research was carried out on retired footballers.

The findings, from a study on 14 former players, suggest a possible link between playing football and developing conditions such as dementia in later in life.

Former West Brom and England striker Astle died in 2002, aged 59, suffering from early on-set dementia, which a coroner found was caused by heading heavy footballs.

Experts said the results of the study provide a platform for a ‘pressing research question’ on whether dementia is more common in footballers than the general population.

Traumatic

The rate of chronic traumatic encephalopathy, CTE, which can cause dementia, detected in the brains of the players was greater than the 12 per cent average found in a previous study which looked at brains from non-footballers. And Ms Astle said it was more evidence that

footballers were at risk of developing conditions after retirement.

The Astle family have campaigned for the Football Association to recognise the impact of heading footballs and take action to protect players since the death of the former striker.

Ms Astle said: “We know what happened to dad and the evidence is mounting and mounting. What we need is for football to do something.

“This isn’t a broken leg, people are dying. It is too late for older players, it is about today’s players and the footballers of the future.”

“It has been 15 years since dad died. This could have been done. It is time for the authorities to stop pushing it under the carpet.”

New hospital boosts jobs

THE creation of a new £350 million super hospital in the Black Country has boosted recruitment of healthcare workers in the area, bosses say.

The Midland Metropolitan Hospital is due to open in October 2018.

Sandwell’s NHS Trust, which will run the new hospital, has struggled to attract specialists and consultants over the past year, but chiefs said that was now starting to change because of what they are calling the Midland Met effect.

Toby Lewis, chief executive of the Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust, said: “There is encouraging news in our recent recruitment of several key consultant staff, including in paediatric ophthalmology, as well as grounds for optimism that the Midland Met effect may be helping us to recruit in accident and emergency and acute medicine.”

Town’s fountain of success



Victorian sculptor James Forsyth’s magnificent fountain in Dudley town centre

DUDLEY town centre’s baroque fountain has been named as the winner of the Victorian Society’s 2016 Birmingham & West Midlands Conservation Award.

Dudley Council was chosen from four finalists for this year’s prize for their ‘skilled and dedicated’ conservation work to the prestigious fountain on the High Street.

The Grade II*-listed fountain was created in 1867 by sculptor James Forsyth and acted as a grand showpiece for his skills.

Planter

For many years the fountain fell into disrepair, with its original purpose as a grand water structure lost for over 30 years as the troughs were filled with soil and flowers, turning the monument into a huge planter.

Now, its original purpose has been reinstated and water flows from the mouths of

the ornate dolphins and lions as it was designed to do.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, cabinet member for planning and economic development at Dudley Council, said: “We are really proud of the restoration project with the fountain as part of the wider regeneration of the town centre.

“The fountain is very much a focal point for people in the town and complements the new market place and the restoration of the historic shop fronts, which is so vital in such an important shopping area which dates back to medieval times.

“We’re delighted that this has been recognised at a national level but there is still more work to be done around maintenance and preservation to make sure this local landmark continues to be a focal point for the town.”

Major success as chef wins top curry award

A CURRY chef from Tipton has been hailed as the ‘King of Spice’.

Abul Kalam Koyes from Major Curry Affair, in Fisher Street, was crowned regional winner of Master Chef Promotions after showcasing his skill at Bournville College in front of judges including celebrity chef Pat Chapman.

A total of 26 chefs went head-to-head for one of the industry’s top honours. The results were announced at a gala dinner this month attended by 1,000 guests in West Bromwich.

Mr Koyes said: “It was an honour to share a kitchen with so many talented chefs and to be named the overall winner from our region is one of the highlights of my entire career. I’m absolutely thrilled.”

The awards, hosted by comedian and YouTuber Ali Official, were broadcast around the world, with global satellite TV coverage from a host of stations.

Most Haunted medium visit

SPIRITUAL medium Derek Acorah, who became famous for his enthusiastic pursuit of ghosts on the cult TV show Most Haunted, is appearing on stage in the Black Country.

The 67-year-old Merseyside medium’s Whispers from Heaven tour comes to Brierley Hill Civic Hall in Bank Street tomorrow (Friday) at 8pm.

Tickets cost £19 for the event, see www.bhilleicvic.co.uk or call the box office on (01384) 573381.

www.serenitykitchensbathrooms.co.uk

Serenity

KITCHENS & BATHROOMS

Call us on 01384 279 997

THE ONE STOP SHOPPING EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR NEW KITCHEN



READ BELOW WHAT WE CAN DO FOR YOU

- Provide a full design and project management service if required
- Take your ideas and make them a reality
- So please come and meet the team at Serenity
- All trades are carried out by our team. This includes, building, tiling, plastering, carpentry, electrical, plumbing and gas. No job is too big or too small for us. No gimmicks, just quality goods and quality service.

Example Job

Choice of 9 Door Panels
Colours and styles
7 Units worktops and upstands,
oven, hob and extractor
sink and tap
Cornice, Pelmet and End Panels
Fully Fitted £3995

Stallings Lane | Kingswinford | DY6 7AP

DESIGNED | PLANNED | INSTALLED

New night flights a perfect take off



Looking down on Wolves training ground



Jim Hughes and gyrocopters at Rotorsports

"THE possibilities are limitless – this is really going to take off and we are at the centre of it all."

A Wolverhampton-based aircraft manufacturer believes that its fleet of gyro planes are ready to be used for all manner of aviation activity over the next decade after finally securing permission to fly them at night.

Rotorsport UK is the leading gyroplane manufacturer in the UK with more than 140 aircraft in its fleet. Since 2005 Rotorsport has transformed the world of gyro-

Up, up, and away as reporter JORDAN HARRIS gets a bird's eye view from a gyro plane

roplanes into the fastest growing light aviation sector from its base at Halfpenny Green Airport.

The company uses its fleet of Auto-Gyro models mainly for business and commercial flights at present but now believes that with the ability to take to the skies at night, it can offer help to the emergency services, weather and traffic reports and the casual flyer looking for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

After carrying out the first ever

night time flight of a gyro plane in the UK using the Cavalon Pro Model last November, the business is now looking to the future with optimism.

Jim Hughes, who has made the transition from gyro plane instructor to business and operations manager with Rotorsport, said: "Being able to fly at night has opened all sorts of doors for us now."

"We really believe that the Auto-Gyro is the future of aviation, the Cavalon Pro can do everything a regular helicopter can at around 10 per cent of the cost."

First

"Getting permission to fly at night was tricky because there were no set tests for us to pass due to how little these planes are used over here."

"We had to make up our own course and get that signed off because this was such an unprecedented thing to want to do."

"This is the first time in European history that such an aircraft has been awarded this approval."

"It's been a very long and complicated process but it's certainly a major step forwards in the gyro world."

He added that despite their size, there is never a moment when you feel unsafe as you move over the city 500ft above the air. Mr Hughes said: "They are actually safer than a helicopter too. People have a concern about small aircraft but this



Seated and Jordan is ready for the off



Reporter Jordan Harris experiences a flight in a Gyrocopter

moves with the wind, it isn't fighting against it.

"Even an emergency landing situation is very calm, we just gently hover back down towards the ground."

He added: "It is something I set as a challenge for myself and within seven years I have gone from a novice to someone who can teach others."

"It is a great feeling and some-

thing that so many people would enjoy. Outside of that, we see huge potential for our planes to become a part of the business world and believe that the police could benefit."

"They would save money and get the job done if they are over-seeing a chase or a particular incident, but we could also help with search and rescue missions," Mr Hughes added

StarReader Travel
Hand picked holidays with you in mind



Fly direct from Birmingham airport

LIMITED AVAILABILITY
SUMMER
Savers

Don't miss out on these sizzling summer deals from Omega, with flights, transfers, hotel and luggage all included. Snap them up before they're gone!



4 STAR ST ANTON AUSTRIA *Summer Saver*

Departing Sunday 9 July 2017

Mountain pine air you could bottle and sell, glacier fresh beer, scented meadows, crystal lakes, waterfalls... that's Austria in summertime, the perfect antidote to city hustle and beach bustle!

PRICE INCLUDES...

- ✓ Return flight on an exclusive Omega charter from Birmingham airport to Friedrichshafen
- ✓ 7 nights at the 4 star Sport Hotel, St Anton with breakfast
- ✓ St Anton Summer Card with one day's free use of cable cars
- ✓ All airport taxes and return transfer from the airport to your hotel
- ✓ Services of an English-speaking representative

Your Chronicle
in association with

Omega
ABTA

8 days,
by AIR
only
£699 pp

VIEW ONLINE AT

www.omega-holidays.com/WGQ663

QUOTE CODE: WGQ663

Optional excursions to pre-book
Lichtenstein & Appenzell, and
Lindau & Lake Constance

DUBROVNIK *Summer Saver*

Departing Sunday 2 July 2017

Join us for a superb-value Croatian getaway to the 'pearl of the Adriatic' with optional excursions to Montenegro's Kotor Bay area and a galleon cruise round the Elaphiti Islands. This great-value break includes flights and transfers, 3 star hotel with breakfast, dinner and Croatian magic as standard.

8 days,
by AIR
only
£799 pp

VIEW ONLINE AT

www.omega-holidays.com/LUM818

QUOTE CODE: LUM818

PRICE INCLUDES...

- ✓ Return flight on an exclusive Omega charter from Birmingham airport to Dubrovnik
- ✓ 7 nights at the 3 star Hotel Komodor, Lapad Bay, Dubrovnik
- ✓ Hot buffet breakfast and buffet dinner
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer from the airport to your hotel

Optional excursions at a supplement: Island Galleon Cruise and excursion to Montenegro's Kotor Bay



Organised by Omega Holidays plc, ABTA V4782. ATOL Protected 6081. Single supplement applies. Subject to availability.

For more information or to book, please call: **01902 902165**

OPENING TIMES: MON-FRI 8.30-19.00 SAT 8.30-16.00 SUN 10.00-16.00



OmegaHols



@OmegaHols



OmegaHols



fast the ticket

Riot predicted

Kaisers back after forest date
See Page 23



Sister Burke

See Page 23



**NATIVE
MONSTER**
Entertainment Unleashed

For full listings see **Express & Star** every Friday

THE ARENA PRESENTS
Friday 10th March
10pm - 4am

Masquerade Ball

DJ NUGSTER // DJ ANTON SWERVE // DJ JD
Playing the best in 90's RnB, Lovers Rock & Reggae
Dress code is Masquerade or smart wear only - no casual Wear
£5 Entry before 12pm, Here After - 10pm - 4am
sloperounge

25th March 17
THE ARENA PRESENTS

HOUSE PARTY

LN

DJ LUCK MCNEAT
WWW.DJLUCKMCNEAT.COM

10pm-6am RIC JAMES
£5 Early Bird Tickets available on Ticketcity
PLAYING THE BEST IN BASS // HOUSE // GARAGE
£7 Entry before 3am - £10 thereafter. No entry after 3am

FUNCTION ROOM HIRE

Weddings • Birthdays • Christenings
Corporate Meetings • Conferences • Boxing Events



Email • managers@
TheArenaStourbridge.co.uk

27 / 29 Hagley Road, Stourbridge DY8 1QH

TEL: 07376 040 959 / 01384 376736

IDEAL FOR SMALL AND LARGE FUNCTIONS CHARITY EVENTS,
WEDDINGS, CHRISTENINGS, BIRTHDAY PARTIES ETC...

the ticket



To advertise your
pub, restaurant or
venue here...

Please call
Daniel Eccles on
01384 353227

Elbow



Wednesday & Thursday, 7pm
O2 Academy, Birmingham
Sold out, Ramsbottom's finest bring melancholy magnificence fronted by Guy Garvey (above) while album *Little Fictions* flies high in the chart. See academymusicgroup.com/o2academybirmingham

Andy Zaltzman



Tonight, 7pm
Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton
Specialising in politics and sport, the master satirist known for top comedy podcast *The Bugle* and working with Last Week Tonight's John Oliver talks up his Plan Z for mankind. See www.wolvescivic.co.uk

Pet Shop Boys



Tonight, 7.30pm
Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham
Expect the hits plus songs from aptly-entitled comeback album *Super* as Chris Lowe and Neil Tennant mark more than 30 years of electro-pop perfection. See www.barclaycardarena.co.uk

Varekai



Wednesday until March 5,
Genting Arena, Birmingham
Québec's globe-trotting Cirque du Soleil bring their magical signature production to the NEC venue for five days as part of its first UK arena tour. See www.gentingarena.co.uk or www.cirquedusoleil.com

ROCK & METAL

Rocket
Tonight - tomorrow,
The Jam House,
Birmingham, B3 1QU.
Call 0121 200 3030

The Scopyons (Scorpions Tribute) + Psycho Kiss
Tonight, £7 - £8
The RoadHouse Birmingham,
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

The Blockheads – 40th Anniversary Tour
Tonight, £18 - £20
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

GLAM 45 – Seventies Glam Rock plus SWEET 45!
Tomorrow,
The RoadHouse Birmingham,
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

Quest Fest
Sun, £5 - £10
The RoadHouse Birmingham,
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

Metal To The Masses Birmingham – ROUND 1 – HEAT 1
Wed, £3
The RoadHouse Birmingham,
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

Stevie Nimmo Trio
Wed, £12.50 - £14.50
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Wednesday 13
Wed,
The Slade Rooms,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.
Call 01902 552122

The ELO Experience
Thu,
New Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

CLUBBING

Seedy Sonics presents Gone West
Tonight - tomorrow,
The Rainbow Venues, Digbeth,
Birmingham, B9 4AG.
Call 0121 753 1818

Break Stuff – A Night of Nu-Metal Nostalgia
Tomorrow, £4
The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent,
ST1 1DR. Call 01782 214991

CLASSICAL

St. David's Day Concert
Tomorrow, £19
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT. Call 01743 281281

Organ Proms 2017
Tomorrow,
Victoria Hall, Hanley,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD.
Call 0844 871 7649

Young Musicians Showcase
Sun,
Bromsgrove Concerts, B61 8LG.
Call 01527 836147

FOLK, COUNTRY & ACOUSTIC

Barbara Dickson
Tonight,
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

One Night In Nashville
Sun,
New Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

The Acoustic Sessions
Tue,
The Jam House,
Birmingham, B3 1QU.
Call 0121 200 3030

Hannah Johnson & The Broken Hearts
Wed, £14.95
The Jam House,
Birmingham, B3 1QU.
Call 0121 200 3030

JAZZ, SOUL, BLUES, REGGAE & MOTOWN

The Glenn Miller Orchestra
Sun,
Victoria Hall, Hanley,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD.
Call 0844 871 7649

Jazz Tuesdays
Tue,
Spotted Dog, Digbeth,
Birmingham, B12 0NH.
Call 0121 772 3822

POP

Mike and the Mechanics
Tomorrow,
Symphony Hall Birmingham, The
International Convention Centre,
B1 2EA.
and
Mon,
Victoria Hall, Hanley,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD.
Call 0844 871 7649

THEATRE

Knoxville Highway
Tonight, £6
Forest Arts Centre, Walsall,
WS3 1AG.
Call 01922654555

A Judgement In Stone
Tonight - tomorrow,
New Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham,
B5 4DS.

Cinderella
Tonight - tomorrow, £16
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB.
Call 0844 338 5000

Romeo and Juliet
Tonight - tomorrow,
Hall Green Little Theatre,
Birmingham, B27 7RY.
Call 0121 707 1874

Anton & Erin – Strictly
Tonight,
Victoria Hall, Hanley,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD.
Call 0844 871 7649

Circus of Horrors
Tonight,
Oakengates Theatre, Telford,
TF2 6EP.
Call 01952 382382

Thriller Live
Tonight - tomorrow,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 429212

Cirque Berserk!
Tonight - Sun
Birmingham REP Theatre,
Library of Birmingham, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

The Royal Ballet: The Sleeping Beauty
Tue, £12.50 - £18
Light House, The Chubb
Buildings, Wolverhampton,
WV1 1HT.
Call 01902 716 055
and
Tue, £14.50
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

017 Dance Show: Around the World
Tue - Thu,
Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent,
ST1 1AP.
Call 0844 871 7649

Vampires Rock: The Ghost Train
Wed,
New Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

An Evening of Dirty Dancing – The Ultimate Tribute Show
Thu,
Brierley Hill Civic Hall, DY5 3DH.
Call 01384 812730

COMEDY

Standup comedy – Mickey Sharma, Micky Bartlett, Mark Nelson
Tonight - tomorrow, £15
Jongleurs Comedy Club, Bir-
mingham, B15 1DA.
Call 08700 111 960

Sean Lock – Keep It Light
Tue, £25
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Round The Horne
Wed,
Victoria Hall, Hanley,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD.
Call 0844 871 7649

Henning Wehn
Thu, £14.50
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

MISC. EVENTS

An Evening with Harry Redknapp
Tue,
The Chameleon Restaurant &
Bar, Birmingham, B1 1BD.
Call 0121 643 2233

ARTS & CULTURE

Photographic Prize 2017
Today - Thu,
RBSA Gallery, Birmingham,
B3 1SA.
Call 0121 236 4353

David Cox and his Contemporaries
Today - Thu,
Worcester City Art Gallery,
WR1 1DT.
Call 01905 25371

Somewhere Never Travelled – Annette Pugh Solo Exhibition
Today - Thu,
Reuben Colley Fine Art,
Birmingham, B3 2BB.
Call 0121 236 0920

The Last One Standing: The Tale of Bersham Colliery
Today - Thu,
Wrexham Museums, LL14 4HT.
Call 01978 292000

Touched by Greatness: The Story of Welsh International Football
Today - Thu,
Wrexham Museums, LL14 4HT.
Call 01978 292000

Into the Woods
Today - Thu,
RBSA Gallery, Birmingham,
B3 1SA.
Call 0121 236 4353

Enquiring Minds
Today - Thu,
Worcester City Art Gallery,
WR1 1DT. Call 01905 25371

Spotlight Tour
Today, Sun, Free
Ikona Gallery, Brindleyplace,
Birmingham, B1 2HS.
Call 1 0121 248 0708

Fantastic Beasts
Today,
Shropshire Hills Discovery
Centre, Craven Arms, SY7 9RS.
Call 01588 676060

Animal Mania
Today, £1 - £4
Blakesley Hall Museum,
Birmingham, B25 8RN.
Call 0121 464 2193

Stitch Social
Today,
Creative Coffee Hub,
Birmingham, B29 6HJ.
Call 01215 727300

Uncovering Mysteries
Today,
The Commandery,
Sibbury, Worcester, WR1 2HU.
Call 01905 361821

Buried Treasures
Sun,
The Barber Institute of Fine Arts,
University of Birmingham,
Edgbaston, B15 2TS.
Call 0121 414 7333

Whyley Dance
Tue,
Areley Kings Village Hall,
Areley Common,
Stourport-on-Severn, DY13 0NB.
Call 07939 318973.

Solihull Photographic Society – competition
Tue,
Solihull Women's Institute,
B91 3DQ. Call 07815 165438

Title TBC
Wed,
University of Birmingham,
Edgbaston, B15 2TS.
Call 0121 414 7333

Beginners Embroidery Course
Wed,
Creative Coffee Hub,
Birmingham, B29 6HJ.
Call 01215 727300

Ceramic Crafts
Today - Sun, £3- £4
The Ironbridge Gorge Museums,
Coalbrookdale, TF8 7DQ.
Call 01952 433 424

FAMILY & KIDS

mac Explorers: Mini Museums
Today,
MAC, Cannon Hill Park,
Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Fantastic February Fun
Today,
Worcestershire County Museum,
Hartlebury Castle, Kidderminster
DY11 7XZ. Call 01299 250416

Fantastic Half-Term Fun
Today,
Worcestershire County Museum,
Hartlebury Castle, Kidderminster
DY11 7XZ. Call 01299 250416

John's Garden Open Day
Wed, £5
Ashwood Nurseries, Kinver,
Kingswinford, DY6 0AE.
Call 01384 401996

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Ricky is ready to run riot at big arena show



Straight-talking Ricky Wilson with the rest of the Kaiser Chiefs, ready to make a brilliant noise at Birmingham Barclaycard Arena on Saturday

DON'T expect anything but honesty from one of rock'n'roll's most successful frontmen of the past 10 years.

Kaiser Chiefs' singer Ricky Wilson is the epitome of a straight-talking, no-nonsense Yorkshireman. If he were a cricketer, he'd be Geoffrey Boycott.

Take their upcoming tour, calling in at Birmingham's Barclaycard Arena on Saturday. For

a band returning after a lay-off following their successful 2015 Education, Education, Education tour, you'd imagine maybe a few nerves.

"Well, with the shows, I've got this problem that I'm too ambitious," he said. "I'm always on to the next thing. To me, they're not big enough, I want them bigger. I want to do a bigger tour in the autumn."

The gigs come hot on the heels of their show-stealing 2016 headline slot at V, when they revealed to the other acts on the bill what

a real festival band is made of. Ricky had a blast.

"I thought it was brilliant. These days, there's not as many bands who can headline that sort of show. We've cornered the market."

The Leeds band's latest album, Stay Together, is unashamedly pop. Ricky, who became a household name thanks to his role as judge and chief charmer on the BBC run of The Voice UK, said: "Making an album is just about making 45 minutes of brilliant noise – think about it – that's all it is."



Soul sister's brand new act

ALEXANDRA Burke does seem to have cornered the market in playing divas in peril. After around two years in the role of Rachel Marron in *The Bodyguard*, she is now playing an equally iconic character on stage.

This time around though, it is a lead role that requires a lighter touch in the shape of Deloris Van Cartier, the sassy singer who witnesses a gangland murder and is placed out of harm's way in a convent. Thus begins *Sister Act*, which is on at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre from Monday until Saturday (March 4) as part of a UK tour.

The revival has been directed and choreographed by *Strictly Come Dancing*'s Craig Revel Horwood and wowed audiences at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre last year.

Alexandra admits she took a little bit of persuasion to bring Deloris to life, particularly as it meant stepping into the shoes of Whoopi Goldberg, who played Deloris in the movie. She recalled: "I actually wasn't too sure about saying yes although it was a fantastic opportunity. I didn't know if I was made for the role. It was actually the soundtrack that made me say yes. The songs are just so beautiful and I thought it would be a privilege to sing them."

After winning *The X Factor* in 2008, her debut single *Hallelujah* was a massive hit. Concert tours, hit albums and West End success followed.

Alexandra is keen to create a new characterisation of Deloris and not just copy Whoopi Goldberg. She said: "I always want to put my own spin and my own interpretation on anything that I do because that's my way. In fact, I have deliberately not watched the whole movie."

Visit www.grandtheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01902 429212.

Get rhythm sticks at the ready for 40th anniversary

IT'S time to get your rhythm sticks out, The Blockheads are bringing Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll to Bilston's Robin 2 tomorrow night (Friday). It's their 40th anniversary and they want to celebrate.

Formed in 1977 as the backing band for Ian Dury and his songwriting partner Chaz Jankel, they first hit the road with their iconic singer when debut album *New Boots and Panties* was released on Stiff Records.

Dury died in 2000 after several hits that blended musical hall patter with jazz-funk but The Blockheads carried on and are now fronted by Ian's friend and minder Derek 'The Draw' Hussey. Chaz Jankel, Norman Watt-Roy (who is also Wilko Johnson's bassist), John Turnbull and Mick Gallagher remain from the original band. Tickets are £18 (advance) and £20 (door), see therobin.co.uk or call 01902 401211.

X marks the spot as TV show pop stars roll in

THE *X Factor* Live Tour 2017 will roll into the West Midlands for a concert tomorrow night (Friday) at Birmingham's Genting Arena, at the NEC.

Viewers favourites from last year's show, which culminated in victory for Matt Terry in the live ITV final on December 11, will be taking to the stage.

The line-up will also include runner-up Saara Aalto, the notorious Honey G, boy band 5 After Midnight, Emily Middlemas, girl band Four of Diamonds, Ryan Lawrie and Sam Lavery.

Attended by more than three million people so far, The *X Factor* Live Tour, featuring finalists from the popular TV singing talent show, has been one of the most successful annual arena tours in the UK for the last 12 years. See www.gentinarena.co.uk for details.

Marley musical already a hit before premiere

BIRMINGHAM Repertory Theatre's new Bob Marley musical, *One Love*, is a hit even before it opens at the Centenary Square theatre next month.

Popular demand for tickets for the world premiere of the show about the life of the reggae legend is so great that its run has been extended by a week.

Written and directed by former Casualty and Holby City actor Kwame Kwei-Armah, *One Love: The Bob Marley Musical* will now run from March 10 to April 15.

Stuart Rogers, executive director at Birmingham Rep said: "It seems to have captured the public's attention with audiences booking from as far afield as Israel, Oslo, Madrid and Hamburg."

To book tickets visit the website birmingham-rep.co.uk or call 0121 236

Short Breaks & Holiday

from only £79!

SHOWTIME With inclusive admission to top shows & acts in 2017!

Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone

Fri 19 May £139

- What's included?**
- Coach travel with reserved seating
 - One night dinner, bed & breakfast at our select hotel
 - Free time to enjoy Leeds
 - Visit to historic York
 - Inclusive evening admission to Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone concert at the Leeds First Direct Arena.

2 DAY SHOWTIME BREAKS

Sat 4 Mar	Sunny Afternoon & Historic York	£119
Fri 17 Mar	The Magic of Malvern & Liverpool	£99
Sat 1 Apr	Bay City Rollers - Les McKeown - Live	£99
Sat 15 Apr	Thriller Live & Historic York	£99
Wed 26 Apr	Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons	£139
Sat 6 May	Dirty Dancing & Historic York	£129
Sat 13 May	The Commitments & Historic York	£119
Sat 13 May	Ken Dodd & Liverpool Special	£99
Sat 27 May	Adam Ant - Live in Concert	£119
Sat 10 Jun	Jane McDonald Live & Chester	£119
Sat 17 Jun	Towerfest Country Music Festival	£119
Sat 24 Jun	Evita Live & Liverpool Special	£119
Sat 1 Jul	Fantastic Mr Fox & Eureka	£99
Sat 26 Aug	Sister Act & Liverpool Special	£99

NATIONAL SPORTS

Sensational Sports Breaks....

2 DAY SPORT BREAKS

Thu 13 Apr	Belway Premier League Darts - Live!	£99
Sat 15 Apr	Liverpool & Haydock Races - Easter Special	£99
Sat 13 May	Liverpool & Haydock Races	£99
Sat 13 May	Women's FA Cup Final - Wembley	£99
Sat 20 May	Non-League Finals Day - Wembley Stadium	£99
Sat 20 May	FA Vase & FA Trophy Finals - Wembley	£99
Sat 20 May	British Touring Car Championship - Oulton Park	£119
Sat 20 May	Non-League Finals Day-Wembley Stadium	£99
Sat 27 May	Liverpool & Chester Races	£99
Sat 1 Jul	Liverpool & Chester Races	£99
Sat 5 Aug	Liverpool & Chester Races	£99
Sat 5 Aug	England v South Africa - Old Trafford	£129
Sat 12 Aug	Liverpool & Haydock Races	£99
Sat 26 Aug	Ebor Stakes - York Racecourse	£119

Truckfest Spectacular & Oxford

Sat 27 May £99

- What's included?**
- Coach travel with reserved seating throughout
 - One night dinner, bed & breakfast at our select hotel
 - All rooms with en-suite facilities
 - Admission to Truckfest at the Newbury Show Ground
 - Visit to Oxford

Explore Europe

Explore the best of Europe....

Bavaria Inclusive Spectacular

Sun 19 March £399

- What's included?**
- Coach travel with reserved seating on your holiday coach
 - Four nights dinner, bed & continental breakfast at the Hotel Am Pfahl Weichach. Overnight stays on the outward and return journeys on a bed and continental breakfast basis.
 - Welcome drink on arrival
 - Free bar on four evenings from 6pm-10pm with a choice of local beers, house wines and soft drinks
 - Includes visits to Regensburg and Bavaria Forest National Park.
 - Free time in Weichach.

4/5/7/14 DAY EUROPEAN BREAKS

Mon 6 Mar	4 Ostend Special Breakaway	£139
Mon 6 Mar	5 Ostend Inclusive	£239
Mon 6 Mar	5 Rhine & Moselle Inclusive	£219
Mon 6 Mar	5 Ostend Superdeal	£209
Mon 6 Mar	5 Rhine Valley Superdeal	£189
Fri 10 Mar	4 Ostend Weekend Superdeal	£149
Fri 10 Mar	4 Disneyland Spectacular at The Kyriad	£279
Fri 10 Mar	4 Disneyland Spectacular at The B&B Hotel	£289
Fri 10 Mar	4 Ostend Inclusive Weekend	£189
Mon 13 Mar	5 Amsterdam, Cologne & Valkenburg	£219
Mon 13 Mar	5 Rhine & Moselle Inclusive	£219
Mon 13 Mar	5 Rhine Valley Superdeal	£189
Sun 19 Mar	14 Spring Sunshine on the Costa Brava Coast	£599
Mon 20 Mar	5 Three Countries Inclusive Special	£199

Special Events

Enjoy admission to sensational Special Events.

2 DAY SPECIAL EVENTS BREAKS

Sat 1 Apr	Victoria at Harewood House	£89
Mon 3 Apr	Flying Scotsman Special	£119
Sat 15 Apr	Emmerdale The Tour	£99
Sat 22 Apr	Skipiton Market & Harrogate Flower Show	£99
Sat 6 May	York & Emmerdale Village Tour	£99
Sat 13 May	Hobbycrafts, Slitch & Sew - Live!	£79
Sat 20 May	Emmerdale The Tour	£99
Sat 17 Jun	Emmerdale The Tour	£119
Sat 24 Jun	Victoria at Harewood House	£89
Tue 11 Jul	The Great Yorkshire Show & Historic York	£99
Sat 15 Jul	Emmerdale The Tour	£119
Wed 2 Aug	Bakewell Country Show & Historic Chester	£89
Sat 5 Aug	York & Emmerdale Village Tour	£119
Sat 19 Aug	Emmerdale The Tour	£119

Harlow Carr Flower Show

Sat 24 June £99

- What's included?**
- Coach travel with reserved seating
 - One night dinner, bed & breakfast at our select hotel
 - Visit to historic York
 - Inclusive admission to enjoy the Harlow Carr Flower Show

Family Fun

Great breaks for all the family!

Polar Bears, Penguins & Kingdom of Ice

Sat 15 April	£99	Sat 17 June	£99
Sat 20 May	£99	Sat 29 July	£99
Sat 26 August	£99		

- What's included?**
- Coach travel with reserved seating throughout
 - One night dinner, bed & breakfast at our select hotel
 - Included admission to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park to visit the Polar Bears and numerous other animals
 - Included admission to the stunning 'Deep' where visitors can enjoy a unique interactive experience.

2 DAY FAMILY FUN BREAKS

Sat 18 Mar	Legoland Spectacular	£99
Sat 15 Apr	Legoland Spectacular	£119
Sat 29 Apr	Legoland Discovery & Blackpool Funtime	£89
Sat 3 Jun	Legoland Discovery & Blackpool Funtime	£89
Sat 24 Jun	Legoland Spectacular	£119
Sat 1 Jul	Legoland Discovery & Blackpool Funtime	£89
Sat 22 Jul	Legoland Spectacular	£119
Sat 5 Aug	Legoland Spectacular	£119
Sat 12 Aug	Legoland Discovery & Blackpool Funtime	£89
Sat 26 Aug	Legoland Discovery & Blackpool Funtime	£89
Thu 31 Aug	London & Harry Potter Studio Tour	£129
Sat 9 Sep	London & Harry Potter Studio Tour	£119
Sat 16 Sep	Polar Bears, Penguins & Kingdom of Ice	£99
Sat 23 Sep	Legoland Spectacular	£99

To book go to **nationalholidays.com**

formerly Travelstyle

0844 571 4867

PLUS!!! MANY MORE breaks available...

NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

CHOICE



Gary Barlow

Let It Shine (BBC1, 6.45pm)
The battle of the boy bands is almost over as the three finalists take to the stage one last time, demonstrating their singing and dancing skills in the hope of winning the starring roles in Gary Barlow's new musical based on the music of Take That. He and his fellow panellists, Dannii Minogue, Martin Kemp and a special guest judge, will be giving their feedback, but this week the performers have to impress the viewers, as they're the ones who decide who comes out on top. As to who that will be – Graham Norton and Mel Giedroyc are the ones with the answer. Last in the series.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Scotland v Wales (Kick-off 2.25pm) **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News. **5.20** Regional Programme. **5.30** Celebrity Mastermind. (R)
6.00 **Pointless Celebrities.** Toby Anstis and Jenni Falconer, Janice Long and Bob Harris, Peter White and Steve Punt, and Angie Greaves and Steve Penk take part. (R)
6.45 **Let It Shine.** The finalists take to the stage one last time in the hope of winning the starring roles in Gary Barlow's new musical. Hosted by Graham Norton and Mel Giedroyc. Last in the series.
8.25 **Casualty.** Steph, the woman responsible for Grace's hospitalisation, is rushed into the ER after attempting suicide in prison. The staff face an upward struggle in finding out what pills she has taken, one which is made all the more difficult by the patient's refusal to speak - and the cold distain of both Connie and Jacob. However, when it becomes clear Connie visited Steph in prison not long before she tried to claim her own life, things become even more complicated. Meanwhile, Iain helps Gem to get a job in the hospital coffee shop, and when Grace's continued silence is ruled as being a psychological issue, Sam decides it may be time to take her home.
9.15 **Taboo.** James Delaney confronts Sir Stuart Strange with the cold, hard truth, and plans his escape. However, the Crown has one final, deadly move to make. Last in the series.
10.15 **BBC News;** Weather. National Lottery Update.
10.30 **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Chelsea v Swansea City at Stamford Bridge and Hull City v Burnley at the KCOM Stadium.
11.50 **This Country.** The mockumentary continues as Kerry and Kurtan await the release of their uncle, Steve "Nugget" Muggins, who they believe was wrongfully imprisoned for "having a laugh".
12.15 **Film:** Return from the River Kwai. (1988) **1.50** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.55** BBC News.

BBC2

8.10 **Film:** In Which We Serve. (1942)
10.00 Britain's Secret Seas. (R) **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** Two Greedy Italians: Still Hungry. (R)
1.00 **Film:** Waterloo. (1970) Historical drama, starring Rod Steiger. **3.10** Natural World. (R) **4.00** Mastermind. (R) **4.30** University Challenge. (R) **5.00** Only Connect. (R) **5.30** The House That £100K Built. (R)
6.30 **Flog It!** Will Axon and Michael Baggot value items in Ashbourne, Derbyshire, including a pearlware cow and an Asprey and Co picnic set, while Paul Martin experiences harness racing. (R)
7.30 **Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands.** Paul Murton journeys around the coast of the Long Island of Harris and Lewis, beginning on Scarp, travelling north to Great Bernera, then south east to Scalpay.
8.00 **Diana: Designing a Princess.** Brenda Emmanus explores the stories behind some of the most exquisite dresses owned by Diana, Princess of Wales, some of which are on display in an exhibition at Kensington Palace.
8.30 **Dad's Army.** An invasion alert throws Mainwaring's hopeless would-be heroes into a panic, leading one half of the platoon to launch an attack on the other. (R)
9.00 **Film: My Old Lady.** (2014) Premiere. A penniless New Yorker hopes to turn his fortunes around by selling his dead father's flat in Paris, only to find an eccentric elderly Englishwoman is living there – and under French law, he cannot sell until after she dies. As he gets to know his unexpected tenant, he discovers a side to his father that he never knew. Comedy drama based on director Israel Horovitz's stage play, starring Maggie Smith, Kevin Kline and Kristin Scott Thomas.
10.45 **QI XL.** Stephen Fry hosts an extended version of the quiz with a difference, with guests Matt Lucas, Lucy Porter and Ross Noble joining regular panellist Alan Davies.
11.30 **Film: Albert Nobbs.** (2011) A woman living in disguise as a man in 19th-century Ireland decides to find a wife after a meeting with a fellow cross-dresser. Drama, with Glenn Close and Mia Wasikowska.
1.15 **Film:** Youth Without Youth. (2007)
3.15 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show!
6.25 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R)
6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R)
6.45 Sooty. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Oddbods. (R) **7.05** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Bear Grylls Survival School. **9.05** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Alphabetical. (R) **10.25** Guess This House. (R) **11.25** Off Their Rockers. (R) **11.55** ITV News: Weather. **12.00** **Film:** Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home. (1995) Family adventure, starring Jason James Richter. **1.50** Tipping Point. (R) **2.50** The Chase. (R) **3.50** Regional Programme : Weather. **4.00** ITV News: Weather. **4.15** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Ireland v France (Kick-off 4.50pm).
7.00 **Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway.** New series. The award-winning presenter duo's weekend variety show returns, and this year, the pair have recruited Gogglebox star and I'm A Celebrity 2016 winner Scarlett Moffatt to become their new co-host. Ant and Dec have teased they have a very big role for Scarlett to fill in the first show, one that involves a very public stunt that could see her reach new heights – literally. The Georgie twosome prank Jamie Oliver in the first of this year's Undercover features, and The Voice UK coach Jennifer Hudson stars in the End of the Show Show. Also beginning tonight is The Missing Crown Jewels, Ant and Dec's follow-up to Who Shot Simon Cowell?, last year's comedy sketch whodunit. Emilia Fox is back to head up the investigation, as more celebrity guests are lined up as potential culprits in another mad-cap crime caper.
8.30 **The Voice UK.** The talent contest moves into the Battle phase, in which Tom Jones, Will.i.am, Gavin Rossdale and Jennifer Hudson are expected to shade their protégés into their pop icons.
10.30 **ITV News:** Weather.
10.45 **Film: The Boat That Rocked.** (2009) Richard Curtis's comedy, with Bill Nighy and Philip Seymour Hoffman.
1.10 Jackpot247. **3.00** Who's Doing The Dishes? (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.20 Mobil 1 The Grid. **6.45** The King of Queens. (R) **7.10** The King of Queens. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** The Simpsons. (R) **11.30** The Simpsons. (R) **12.00** Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) **1.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **1.30** Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.30** Come Dine with Me. (R) **3.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **3.30** A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun. (R) **4.30** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.35** Grand Designs. (R)
6.30 **Channel 4 News.**
7.00 **Penelope Keith's Favourite Villages.** The actress travels around Britain visiting villages in different parts of the country, and discovers how people's attitudes have changed to these small communities. Her trip takes her to villages in Devon, Cornwall, Scotland and the Lake District, with the help of insights from the illustrated 1930s Batsford Guides. (R)
8.00 **Great Canal Journeys.** Timothy West and Prunella Scales venture into the open sea as they make their way through the islands of Scotland's coast. Their destination is the rarely used nine-mile Crinan canal on the Mull of Kintyre, described as the world's most beautiful shortcut. However, the Atlantic waves off the coast of Mull force them to head inland to Tobermory. They later explore the holy island of Iona and the Isle of Jura. (R)
9.00 **Film: Dawn of the Planet of the Apes.** (2014) Premiere. A colony of super-intelligent apes thrives following a global virus outbreak that wipes out much of the human race. A survivor tries to make peace with the leader of the apes, but their efforts to reach an understanding are threatened by warmongers on both sides. Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Andy Serkis, Jason Clarke and Gary Oldman.
11.35 **Film: Surrogates.** (2009) Sci-fi thriller, with Bruce Willis and Radha Mitchell.
1.15 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) **2.05** Holyoaks. **4.15** Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free. (R) **4.25** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.05** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.40** Access. **10.45** Police Interceptors Unleashed. (R) **11.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.15** Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole. (R) **2.15** Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole. (R) **3.15** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **4.15** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **5.15** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R)
6.10 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** Paul Bohill and Steve Pinner face some tough decisions when they are given the task of repossessing a house in which a woman is living with two young children. (R)
7.05 **NCIS: Los Angeles.** The team hunts for an electromagnetic pulse device that was stolen from a college research facility, and could destroy Los Angeles if activated, killing millions of people.
8.00 **NCIS.** DiNozzo is reunited with his old flame, Jeane Benoit, when insurgents in Sudan kidnap her doctor husband. Crime drama, guest starring Scottie Thompson.
8.55 **5 News Weekend.**
9.00 **Football on 5: The Championship.** George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's Championship games, including Leeds United v Sheffield Wednesday in a huge Yorkshire derby at Elland Road. Plus, action from Aston Villa v Derby County at Villa Park, Barnsley v Huddersfield Town at Oakwell and Newcastle United v Bristol City at St James' Park.
10.00 **Football on 5: Goal Rush.** George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce all the goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two, including AFC Wimbledon v Walsall and Bristol Rovers v Scunthorpe United.
10.30 **Stealing the Mona Lisa.** This episode looks back to 1911, when one of the most famous pieces of art across the globe, the Mona Lisa, was stolen from the Louvre museum in Paris.
11.30 **Police Interceptors Unleashed.** Officers take on a crook who has devised a crafty scheme to get something for nothing, while PC Barry Peach is confronted by a foul-mouthed pensioner. (R)
12.00 SuperCasino. **3.10** That's So 1985. (R) **4.00** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. (R) **4.50** House Doctor. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Indian Hill Railways **8.00** Timeshift: The People's Liners – Britain's Lost Pleasure Fleets **9.00** Treasures of Ancient Egypt **10.00** Timewatch: Captain Cook – The Man Behind the Legend **11.00** Top of the Pops: 1983 **12.05** Arena: Loretta Lynn – Still a Mountain Girl **1.35** Country Kings at the BBC **2.35** Country Queens at the BBC **3.35** Sounds of the Seventies **3.50** Pop Go the Sixties **3.55** Close **ITV2**
11.10 Ninja Warrior UK **12.10** Take Me Out **1.25** The Brit Awards 2017 **3.55** Film: Step Up 3 (2010) **4.55** FYI Daily **5.00** Film: Step Up 3 (2010) **6.05** Film: Jack and Jill (2011) **8.00** Scorpion **9.00** Film: American Pie (1999) **10.10** FYI Daily **10.15** Film: American Pie (1999) **11.00** Family Guy **12.25** American Dad! **12.55** Film: Couples Retreat (2009) **1.55** FYI Daily **2.00** Film: Couples Retreat (2009) **3.00** Teleshopping **ITV3**
1.05 Film: Carry On Cleo (1964) **2.10** FYI Daily **2.15** Film: Carry On Cleo (1964) **3.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **5.05** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Carry On Forever **12.00** Wycliffe **1.05** Marchlands **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping **ITV4**
11.00 Storage Wars: Texas **12.00** Pawn Stars **1.30** ITV Racing: Live from Kempton. Coverage of today's race meetings at Kempton Park, Lingfield Park and Newcastle. **4.00** Film: The Cimarron Kid (1952) **5.00** FYI Daily **5.05** Film: The Cimarron Kid (1952) **5.45** Storage Wars **6.45** Live Snooker Shoot-Out. **11.00** Film: Red Heat (1988) **12.00** FYI Daily **12.05** Film: Red Heat (1988) **1.05** River Monsters **2.00** Gunsmoke **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **E4**
1.15 Film: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (2009) **3.00** Film: St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold (2009) **5.05** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Paul (2011) **11.05** Gogglebox **12.10** Celebs Go Dating **2.20** Gap Year **3.15** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **4.00** Baby Daddy **4.45** Revenge **Film4**
11.00 The Violent Men (1955) **12.55** Cutthroat Island (1995) **3.15** Carry On Cabby (1963) **5.00** Mr Popper's Penguins (2011) **6.45** The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (2010) **9.00** Pitch Perfect (2012) **11.15** It Follows (2014) **1.20** The Sixth Sense (1999) **3.35** Close

AMPLIFY

Struggling to get noticed?

Broadcast your brand

Build brand awareness and increase traffic to your website with an Amplify package.

To find out more go to www.mnadigital.co.uk/amplify or call 01902 504512

MNA DIGITAL

51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES | 01902 504512 | www.mnadigital.co.uk

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

From Paris with Love, Channel 5, 10pm

An aide at the American embassy in Paris longs to become a CIA agent, but gets more than he bargained for when he is assigned to assist a trigger-happy secret service operative. The agent leads him on a dangerous journey through the city's underworld as they fight to prevent a terrorist attack on the city. Action thriller, with John Travolta. (2010)

TUESDAY

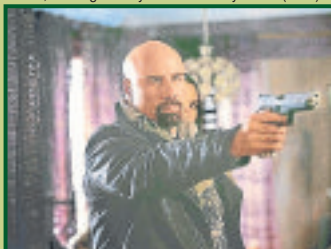
Dear Diary, I Died, Channel 5, 3.15pm

Premiere. When a college student appears to have committed suicide, her sister tries to uncover the secrets behind her death. Thriller, starring Katherine Kelly Lang. (2016)

WEDNESDAY

Fatal Honeymoon, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman goes on honeymoon to Australia, only to drown during a scuba-diving trip to the Great Barrier Reef. Her father is not convinced this was an accident, and begins to suspect her husband may have murdered her. A year later, he finally finds the evidence to prove his accusation. Fact-based crime drama, starring Harvey Keitel and Billy Miller. (2012)



From Paris with Love, Monday, Channel 5, 10pm

THURSDAY

A Date to Die For, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A recent divorcee, suffering from bipolar disorder, accepts a date with a single father. The next morning, she awakens to find her date's dead body in her bed, a knife plunged in his chest. Trying to piece together her memories of the previous night, she sets out to defend her reputation and the lives of her family by locating the killer herself. Thriller, starring Victoria Pratt. (2015)

FRIDAY

Zero Dark Thirty, Channel 4, 12.55am

A CIA operative joins a team of intelligence and military operatives in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks. She spends the next 10 years searching for information on the whereabouts of Osama bin Laden, ultimately leading to the final raid on the terrorist leader's hideout. Kathryn Bigelow's fact-based drama, starring Jessica Chastain. (2012)

Duo find they have one final case to solve

It's the beginning of the end...

Once this, the third series of Broadchurch, reaches its conclusion, there will be no more.

The show's writer and creator, Chris Chibnall, is off to pastures new, to take over as showrunner of Doctor Who, while the stars are... well, who knows? But one thing is for sure - all of them are bound to be in demand.

"When Chris Chibnall first sent me the script for the opening episode of Broadchurch six years ago, I was struck by one defining element," claims executive producer Jane Featherstone. "I loved the characters, I loved the beauty of the world, I loved the powerful whodunit narrative, but above all I loved the way it explored a small-town community in such depth."

"Chris' intention was always to inhabit a space which meant we could stay with our characters and our town after the crime has happened, to really examine the long-term effects of a tragic incident on a community. Our characters had lives before we joined them and they will

continue to exist after we have gone."

The final run begins three years on from the events of the previous series, and five years from when we first met the residents.

"There is a bold new crime story which forces us to ask whether the town has a crack running through it caused by Danny Latimer's death; is this new crime somehow the long-term legacy of that dark moment?" says Featherstone. "Our central characters must contend with this possibility as they battle to make hope, friendship and love triumph over fear and suspicion, as a host of new suspects present themselves."

"The great privilege of long-form storytelling is building a meaningful relationship between our characters and the audience and I am excited for the audience to see how Ellie, Hardy and the Latimers have fared in the last few years. It is a fond farewell for those of us involved in the series for so many years, but as far as I am concerned, the community of Broadchurch will carry on living long after we've gone."

Olivia Colman, David Tennant, Jodie Whittaker and Andy Buchanan are all back again, bolstered by Julie Hesmondhalgh, Sarah Parish, Lenny Henry, Mark Bazeley, Georgina Campbell, Charlie Higson and Roy Hudd.

In the opening episode, Ellie (Colman) and Hardy (Tennant) are called out to attend to Trish Winterton (Hesmondhalgh), who has reported a serious sexual assault. It's clear she has been raped, but cannot tell the police where the attack happened, or who carried it out.

A clue found at Trish's home eventually leads them to the crime scene, but it's a difficult and unusual setting - and one that proves difficult for the forensics team to work in. But, perhaps more disturbing than anything else, is the fact that evidence suggests it was not an opportunistic act, but rather a cold, calculated and planned one.

Hardy considers the theory that once again, a serious sexual predator is at large in the otherwise sleepy coastal town - and may strike again at any moment.



Olivia Colman and David Tennant star in Broadchurch, Monday, ITV, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

The 2,000,000 Calorie Buffet Channel 4, 10pm

For some of us, just seeing that title makes us salivate. The idea of being able to tuck into a banquet of lovely nosh without having to hold back or stop, even if our insides are at bursting point, is something we dream of. It's almost a challenge too - to find out who can consume the most at one sitting. The concept of an all-you-can-eat buffet is thought to have originated in Las Vegas, but they are now a growing phenomenon on this side of the Atlantic too, but who benefits from such an approach - the customers or the restaurants desperate to pull in the punters? We're about to find out courtesy of this documentary, which takes viewers into the heart of three eateries whose managers are wondering if adopting the service was really a good idea.

TUESDAY

The Replacement BBC1, 9pm

Morven Christie stars in a new three-part thriller about a woman who fears she is losing her identity - but is that because she's about to become a mother, or is someone genuinely out to steal her life? Architect Ellen (Christie) discovers she's

pregnant shortly after winning a big contract for her firm. She hires Paula (Vicky McClure) as maternity cover, but becomes uneasy when the new recruit dismisses Ellen's plans to return to work in a couple of months, insisting that she will want to spend more time with her baby. As Paula ingratiates herself with Ellen's bosses, clients and even her friends, the mum-to-be starts to fear that her new employee plans to become her permanent replacement. Everyone else puts Ellen's concerns down to a mix of paranoia and pregnancy, but then a terrible accident strikes the firm.

WEDNESDAY Little Big Shots ITV, 8pm

Dawn French presents this new series which gives a platform to some of the world's most talented children, without forcing them to be subjected to any judges or a telephone vote. Instead, they get to have a nice, friendly chat with Dawn before showing off their incredible skills, which can range from cooking to a flair for spelling. In the first episode, we meet

ballroom and Latin dancing sensations Joshua and Kerry, 9, from Ireland, as well as gifted pianist Leo, 8, from Manchester. We're also introduced to three remarkable seven-year-olds; Balang, from the Philippines, who shows us how he became an internet dance sensation, football fanatic Braydon from Warrington, and London-based kung-fu warrior Junayde. There's also music courtesy of 10-year-old Norwegian jazz sensation Angelina.



The Replacement, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

THURSDAY

Prime Suspect 1973 ITV, 9pm

It was first announced back in 2015 and has taken almost two years to reach us, but will this prequel to Lynda La Plante's much-loved crime drama series be worth the wait? Early signs are good; the period detail is intact and the cast

look impressive. The original programme turned Helen Mirren into a household name thanks to her portrayal of hard-bitten detective Jane Tennison; Doctor Thorne star Stefanie Martini will have big shoes to fill when she takes over the role, playing Tennison as a 22-year-old WPC straight out of training and onto the streets of Hackney. She suffers sexism everywhere she turns, but looks set to make her mark when she is assigned to her first murder case, which involves the death of a teenage girl. Sam Reid and Blake Harrison also appear.

FRIDAY

Live Athletics: European Indoor Championships BBC2, 3pm

Gabby Logan presents coverage of the second session on day one from the Kombank Arena in Belgrade, Serbia, where medals are awarded in five events. Katarina Johnson-Thompson concludes her bid to retain the pentathlon title when she competes in the long jump and 800m, while the other finals taking place are in the men's pole vault and 60m hurdles, and the women's shot put and 60m hurdles. With commentary and analysis from Steve Backley, Steve Cram, Colin Jackson, Denise Lewis and Paula Radcliffe.



Stourbridge Lawn Tennis & Squash Club

5 Weeks - BEGINNERS RACKETBALL COURSE

STARTS 2nd March 2017

Thursdays - 10am - 11am OR Saturdays - 1pm - 2pm

- Only £35 - for full 5 week course. Free Creche on Thursdays.
- FREE racket on becoming a member
- Includes full club racket membership for duration of course (excludes gym facilities)



For more information or to book a place, please call us on 01384 393613, or email info@stourbridge-tennis-squash.co.uk

WE NAILED IT!



Classified Advertising Works!

To advertise your business call 01902 319 191

WORLD OF MOBILITY

We have a selection of **New and Used Scooters**
Stairlifts fully installed, new riser recliners, new wheelchairs and a large selection of daily living aids
We also do servicing and repairs!

FREE PAIR OF SANDPIPER SLIPPERS WITH EVERY RISER RECLINER PURCHASED (1 & 2 seater)

01384 378252 Open Mon-Sat
FREE PARKING at our Showrooms: 110C Bristol Lane, Ambicote, Stourbridge, DY9 4BS
We offer excellent customer service and aftercare on all our products

USE YOUR LOFT!

Bison
Loft Ladders



NEW: Long Safety Side Handles*
*at extra cost

Access your loft safely and easily with Bison loft stairs. A "gas" strut mechanism requiring just fingertip control makes opening and closing your loft stairs exceptionally easy.

- Fully manufactured by us in the Midlands
- Free Survey
- 'Bison' loft ladders, only available from us
- Full 4 year parts & labour guarantee
- The only product available with a safety handle in the loft
- Fitted in approx 2 hours (including making the opening larger)
- **NEW:** Now available in white no painting required*
- **NEW:** Now complete with "comfort" feet to protect carpets and wooden floors.

Over 10,000 Installations

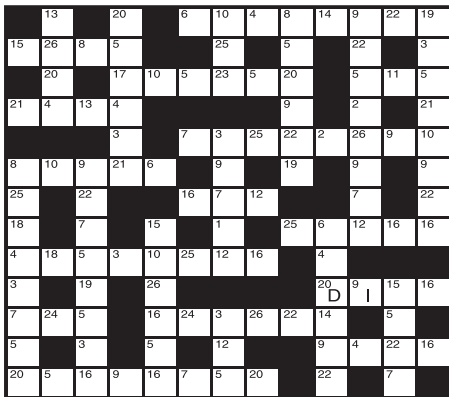
We also fit loft flooring, lighting and roof windows.
All major credit cards accepted

theloftstairscompany

The Loft Stairs Company, Unit 60, Atcham Industrial Estate, Shrewsbury SY4 4UG
Visit our website www.theloftstairscompany.co.uk
Freephone 0800 389 1281
or mobile friendly 01743 761499

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

Q	L	N	Z	K	E	B	I	A	O	F	C	H
S	G	R	M	X	V	P	U	W	J	Y	T	D

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

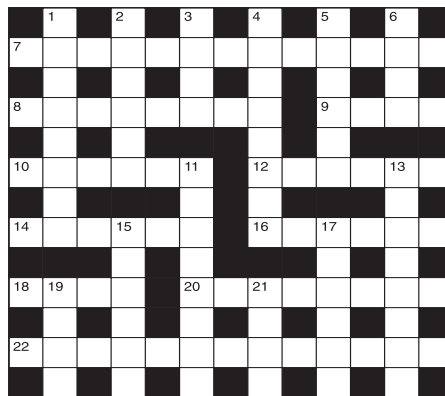
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- A fitting description, as a rule (4,2,7)
- Placed in a grave position (8)
- A particular variation of time (4)
- It's hot to the tongue, and cold to the ear (6)
- After all, it is very new (6)
- Added zest in the kitchen (6)
- His map is spoiled by accident (6)
- The odd dose of poetry? (4)
- He won't expect to be taken seriously when working (8)
- Are friends and succeed in a joint enterprise (3,2,8)

Down

- It must honour its pledges (4,4)
- Make something known about calf meat (6)
- Number who sound as though they approve (4)
- Part of a movement set to swing time (8)
- A fool it's wrong to help (6)
- Let out for no rent (4)
- Show I can edit afresh (8)
- One who makes predictions about a distant traveller (8)
- It's regular trade practice (6)
- Teased about being placid (6)
- Special fare for a conference (4)
- They gave original Christmas gifts, showing some imagination (4)



Quick Clues:

Across

- Moody (13)
- Gloomy (8)
- Part (4)
- Cask (6)
- Split (6)
- Decrease (6)
- Piping (6)
- Couple (4)
- Easily frightened (8)
- Additional (13)

Down

- Adjust (8)
- Seem (6)
- Press (4)
- Tacit (8)
- False (6)
- Lament (4)
- Extend (8)
- Front line (8)
- Streak (6)
- Scold (6)
- Adjoin (4)
- Submissive (4)

Sudoku

2	5							4
		9	5		2	3		
	1		4	6			2	
	3		9				7	
7				3				6
	2			5	7		8	
	7			8	5		4	
9	5	2		1	8			
							6	2

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	9	8	3	2	1	4	7	6
2	1	3	7	6	4	9	5	8
4	7	6	9	5	8	3	1	2
6	4	2	5	1	3	7	8	9
8	5	7	4	9	6	2	3	1
9	3	1	2	8	7	6	4	5
1	6	4	8	3	9	5	2	7
3	2	9	1	7	5	8	6	4
7	8	5	6	4	2	1	9	3

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Idea; 8 Drummed out; 9 Abstract; 10 Earn; 12 Nearly; 14 Yields; 15 Parkas; 17 Litter; 18 Lean; 19 Rosemary; 21 Fall asleep; 22 Sage. Down: 2 Double date; 3 Adit; 4 Queasy; 5 Smithy; 6 Adherent; 7 Eton; 11 Red herring; 13 Rekindle; 16 Stress; 17 Listen; 18 Left; 20 Maps. QUICK - Across: 1 High; 8 Ameliorate; 9 Material; 10 Copy; 12 Fickle; 14 Report; 15 Abject; 17 Rather; 18 Mean; 19 Intimate; 21 Persuasive; 22 Tend. Down: 2 Invariable; 3 Hale; 4 Device; 5 Killer; 6 Crackpot; 7 Deny; 11 Perfection; 13 Keenness; 16 Tribal; 17 Retain; 18 Mope; 20 Meet.

Quiz

- Which people's word for a European means 'the big eyebrows'?
- Who starred as Hannibal Lecter in Silence of the Lambs?
- Which two countries originally contested the Ryder Cup?
- Of which beetle is the wireworm the larva?
- What is a mountain lion or cougar more correctly called?
- Who regained the world heavyweight boxing championship after more than 20 years in 1994?
- In which country was the first Women's Institute group founded in 1897?
- Who is the only US president to have been elected for four consecutive terms?
- Of which country have there been three king Victor Emmanuels?
- Who succeeded Bobby Fischer as world chess champion in 1975?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 African wildcat; 2 Yashmak; 3 Sister Act; 4 Rio de Janeiro; 5 Michael Heseltine; 6 Terracotta; 7 Marsupial; 8 Finland; 9 Robert Powell; 10 Pear tree.
Niner: PURCHASED

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

1679749
878749
3728459

gives flowers,
gives more flowers,
gives even more flowers.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Buy and sell with ClassifiedAds



1

Visit our ClassifiedAds website
classifiedads.expressandstar.co.uk



2

Call our Classified sales team on **01902 317 878**



3

Self Serve - Create your own advert in print and online - visit:
bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk



ClassifiedAds

BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

Brought to you by **Express & Star**

STOVES
bellini
NEWWORLD
SIEMENS BEKO BOSCH Lec

Capital

APPLIANCE CENTRE

A VAST SELECTION!

Cash n carry OPEN TO THE PUBLIC Fast delivery

EX-DISPLAY BRAND NEW BOXED BLEMISHED ALL DISCOUNTED!

T: 01384 271812 Find us on f

Macrome Road, Claregate, Wolverhampton WV6 9HD
FREE PARKING

Salop Street, Wolverhampton Market WV3 0RX

Townsend Place, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 9JA

Castle Street, Hadley, Telford, Shropshire TF1 6GJ

Unit 26, Vanguard Way, Harlescott, Shrewsbury SY1 3TG

STOVES
bellini
NEWWORLD
SIEMENS BEKO BOSCH Lec



It's easy to get around Hamburg via the city's over and underground train lines



Speicherstadt district with the new Elbphilharmonie



The Reeperbahn Festival takes its name from the popular Reeperbahn Street



Beer o'clock at the famous Ratsheern brewery

City of culture, canals and Currywurst

IT was like stepping into a movie set. Tall, red brick-buildings lined the old canals. The district, once a thriving hub of activity, was now eerily quiet except for the faint echoes that bounced off the walls.

We were walking through the Speicherstadt, or the 'Old Warehouse City', a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

A castle-like restaurant awaited us several hundred yards away where we were to have lunch. It was sat on one of the bridges crossing the canal.

I had a Currywurst – a steamed (then fried) sausage topped off with a spicy ketchup and curry powder. It was an interesting combination.

The Restaurant, called Wasserschloss, proved a great setting to take in the surroundings. We were perched up on tables on an outside deck. I could make out cranes spaced out along the copper roof tops – which were used for winching up cargo into the warehouses for storage.

"The storage companies moved out about

Hamburg, Germany

25 years ago," my tour guide Paul Klein said. "And modern companies moved in for office space." It was one of Hamburg's many distinctive districts. The Speicherstadt was built in the late 19th and early 20th century, with its buildings and architecture unique to Hamburg.

Around the corner was a newly-opened coffee museum, which housed all information and equipment about coffee. Coffee is important in Hamburg's history. Coffee was one of the main commodities stored in the warehouses, alongside others such as tea and carpet, which is why the museum had opened up in the Speicherstadt.

Wunderland

Also close by was 'Miniatur Wunderland' – the largest model railway in the world. Exhibitions spanning multiple floors displayed tiny replicas of cities across the world – including Las Vegas and, of course, Hamburg.

And the settings of the exhibitions would

change from day to night every few minutes, which gave an added authentic touch.

Hamburg has many tales, spread out across districts of different time periods. Each one with a unique appearance and vibe.

The city was bombed heavily during the Second World War, so a lot of re-development has taken place. This includes the overdue 800 million Euro symphony hall due to open this year, called the Elbphilharmonie.

A few blocks away from the Speicherstadt was St Pauli – a district in total contrast to the sleepy warehouse area. It is well known for its entertainment and night-life. Parts of it were not family friendly.

It was the old stomping ground of The Beatles in the 1960s, which is still celebrated today. It is also home to one of Europe's largest legal red light districts.

We were taken through the colourful streets by musician Stefanie Hempel. She showed us the venues that The Beatles once played, whilst performing their hit-songs. "The Beatles got their trademark haircut whilst in Hamburg," she said, adopting the style of German art students.

The waterways of Hamburg are important part of life in the city. The canals run to the River Elbe, and restaurants will often serve up fish on their menus, including fresh water shrimps.

The Ratsheern Brewery, located in St Pauli, offered great beer, which could be sampled on tours of the brewery. The overground and underground train lines made navigating the city easy.

I stayed at the Hotel Reichshof during my trip, located right across the road from Hamburg's central train station, Hauptbahnhof. It was a traditional hotel across six storeys with a restaurant, bar, and sports and spa facilities.

After five days experiencing the city, I found Hamburg a warm city with real character, culture and authenticity.

Each district offered something different – shopping, history, art, museums and entertainment.

Hamburg would make an enjoyable getaway trip for a city break, whatever time of year, where you can find a genuine look into modern Germany.

Jamie Brassington

theticket

**To advertise here
please call
Daniel Eccles on
01384 353227**

PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY
GUIDE TO HOME
BUYING AND
LETTING

29
Stourbridge Chronicle
Thursday, February 23, 2017

Ideal first-time buy is beautifully presented home

A beautifully presented semi-detached family home, 10 Roundhouse Road, Upper Gornal, Dudley, is for sale through Trinity Property at £124,950 with no chain.

Having off-road parking nearby, which is not allocated, it lies in a popular location with local schools nearby, with Roberts primary within a five-minute walk.

The accommodation is well decorated throughout in neutral shades. Having double glazing and central heating, the accommodation briefly comprises of a good-sized through lounge/dining room, a fitted kitchen with a door to the side alley.

Upstairs the home has two good-sized bedrooms – which are both double – and a house bathroom/WC with shower over the bath.

This home also has a garden to the front and private rear garden with patio.

Trinity Property bring a fresh, friendly and honest approach to selling, buying and letting property within the Dudley and Stourbridge area.

Offering free market appraisals, great EPC prices, all aspects of property letting and management; they are based in central Dudley and cover Kingswinford, Wordsley, Netherton, Sedgley, Tipton and Tividale and more, with a business built on recommendation.

"With many years of experience to bring to the table, you can expect great service at the right price," said a spokesman for the selling agent.

"We can offer you internet marketing on Rightmove, OnTheMarket, TrinityProperty.net and others, as well as local and regional marketing in newspapers including the Express and Star, Chronicles and local newspapers, along with our eye-catching Cerise and Black (Sales) and Yellow and Green (Lettings) boards on the streets."

Trinity Property's Lettings Department can offer full property management, rent collection and tenant-find services, with rent guarantees and the Unique Rent On Time available.

So, for your one-stop property shop, Trinity Property can open all the right doors.

UPPER GORNAL £124,950



TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Trinity Property

TEL: 01384 213395

EMAIL: dudley@trinityproperty.net

KEY FEATURES

Beautifully presented semi

2 good sized bedrooms

Through lounge/diner

Bathroom/WC

No chain



They're sold

Turn to your local estate agent to sell your property and you will be **SOLD ON:**

- Professional accredited local agent service
- Free valuation
- Local area knowledge
- Adverts in local newspapers, online and office window display
- Registered house hunters
- Solid marketing advice to help you sell fast

If you are thinking of selling, look no further than the estate agents in these pages for the best local advice available.



A modern and spacious three-storey town house

**TIPTON,
£179,950**

A lovely, modern three-storey town house, 100 Horseley Heath, Tipton, has spacious family accommodation.

It is for sale through Paul Dubberley at £179,950.

With gas central heating and double glazing and beautifully presented throughout, its accommodation briefly comprises a reception hall, a lounge/dining room, a fitted breakfast kitchen, utility room, four bedrooms, master with fitted wardrobes and an en-suite and bedroom two with a Jack and Jill en-suite and bedroom four/guest room – bedrooms two and three also with wardrobes – a bathroom, garage, additional parking and a garden with a pathway leading to the garage.

For further information, or to book that all important viewing, call them on 0121 522 3733.



Home in need of updating has great scope for improvement

**BEARWOOD
£225,000**

<<<

In need of updating and modernisation, this four-bedroom semi-detached house in West Park Road, Bearwood, Smethwick has good sized accommodation.

With majority double glazing and central heating, it is for sale through Tom Giles at £225,000. Situated opposite West Smethwick Park, it has a porch, reception hall, front sitting room, rear sitting room, middle sitting room, kitchen, four bedrooms, a bathroom, a separate toilet, a side garage with a downstairs toilet, a block paved driveway and a large lawned garden at rear.

Public transport services are close by providing links into Oldbury, Bearwood, Birmingham, West Bromwich and other surrounding areas. Galton Bridge Railway Station is situated half a mile away offering.

For further information contact Tom Giles on 0121 5526171.



**phipps and
pritchard
with McCartneys**

chartered surveyors
estate agents
auctioneers

Spring
Auction

6pm Tuesday 14th March 2017

**Hogarths Stone Manor Hotel, Stone,
Kidderminster. DY10 4PJ**

Offered for sale by Public Auction subject to prior sale,
special conditions & reserve.

www.phippsandpritchard.co.uk

Cedar Crescent, K'minster DY11 6AQ



Of interest to Builders and Developers - a 3-bedroom semi detached house requiring some structural repair work but priced very fairly and reflectively and also set within a particularly nice cul-de-sac/crescent location of only just 16 properties overlooking a "central Green". This property has amazing further potential. Energy Rating E
STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060

Guide Price £150,000-£170,000

Ruskin Avenue, K'minster DY10 3XQ



A three bedroom detached family home located in a sought after position within the popular and established Offmore Farm estate. Reception Porch. Lounge. Dining Room. Kitchen. Utility. Three Bedrooms. Family Bathroom. Garage. Driveway. Fore and rear Gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN. Energy Rating E
KIDDERMINSTER OFFICE 01562 822244

Guide Price £125,000-£135,000

Ferndale Crescent, K'minster DY11 5LN



A superb and rare opportunity to purchase a spacious well presented two bedroom bungalow occupying a larger than average corner plot with wrap around gardens, driveway and garage. Reception Hall. Large and spacious Lounge & Dining Room. Kitchen. Rear Inner Hall. Two Bedrooms. Bathroom. Energy Rating D
KIDDERMINSTER OFFICE 01562 822244

Guide Price £150,000-£160,000

Milton Street, Stourport DY13 9AA



In the same ownership for the last 50 years! - A spacious DOUBLE FRONTED 3-bedroom semi detached cottage right in the centre of Historic Stourport and enjoying an elevated position, also set back behind lawned foregardens therefore giving privacy from the road together with a pleasant outlook. Energy Rating D
STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060

Guide Price £80,000-£100,000

Somerleyton Av., K'minster DY10 3AS



Attractive detached Victorian Villa, comprising two flats offered for sale here in one freehold lot is the following:
Flat 2 - 9 Somerleyton Avenue - a first floor 2-bedroom flat with private access and garden, and subject to a Regulated Tenancy producing £4,524 per annum.
The freehold of 9 Somerleyton Avenue as a whole - Flat 1 is in separate ownership and subject to a 99 year lease from 1986 with a £25 per annum ground rent.
STOURPORT OFFICE 01299 822060

Guide Price £50,000-£70,000

MORE LOTS REQUIRED! - CALL TODAY FOR A FREE NO OBLIGATION VALUATION FROM THE AUCTION EXPERTS

31 Worcester St. Kidderminster Worcs DY10 1EQ Tel: 01562 822244
Fax: 01562 825401 email: sales@phippsandpritchard.co.uk

1 High St. Stourport on Severn Worcs DY13 8DJ Tel: 01299 822060
Fax: 01299 827066 email: stourport@phippsandpritchard.co.uk



Well-presented three bedroom mid-terraced property on sale

UPPER GORNAL
£124,995 <<<

This well-presented three-bedroom mid terraced family home in Green Lane, Upper Gornal, Dudley, lies in a popular location.

Having off-road parking for at least two vehicles to the front and a well-maintained garden, it is for sale through Trinity Property at offers in excess of £124,995.

The hallway has stairs to the first floor and leads to a lounge at the front with a feature fireplace. To the rear there is a dining area and fitted kitchen leading from it. There is under stairs storage and a utility room with a downstairs WC off it. Upstairs the landing leads to three good-sized double bedrooms, one with a built-in storage room off it and a spacious house bathroom/WC. To the rear is a patio area with a lawn area and a wooden shed. There is shared access to the rear from the front of the property.

Call 01384 213395.



Deceptively spacious two-bedroomed home

DUDLEY
£94,950

New to the property market, this deceptively spacious two-bedroomed mid terrace property in New Road, Dudley, includes two large reception rooms plus a breakfast room/utility.

It is for sale through Hicks Hadley at £94,950.

As well as the two large reception rooms and breakfast room/utility area, the home's accommodation includes a good-sized fitted kitchen with appliances, a rear lobby, two well proportioned bedrooms and a large bathroom with separate shower cubicle to the first floor.

The property has a courtyard garden, a cellar, gas central heating and double glazing. This sale is expected to generate a lot of interest.

For further information, or to book a viewing, please contact Hicks Hadley on 0121 585 6667.



Cottons
CHARTERED SURVEYORS

www.cottons.co.uk



29 MALVERN ROAD, HANDSWORTH



29-30 TEMPLE BAR, WILLENHALL



33 HIGH STREET, STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN

Forthcoming Auction

TUESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY
to be held at The Aston Villa Football Club

Considering Buying at Auction?
Call for your **FREE** Catalogue

Considering Selling by Auction?
Call for your **FREE** No Obligation Appraisal

Tel: 0121 247 2233 or
email auctions@cottons.co.uk
www.cottons.co.uk

50 LOTS
For full details of our lots available, or for advice on any aspect of Buying or Selling by Auction.
Call our friendly and professional Auction team on **0121 247 2233**

Auctioneers of Residential and Commercial Property, Land and Development Opportunities



Auctioneers of Residential and Commercial Property, Land and Development Opportunities



UNITS 14, 16, 18 & 20 CEMETERY ROAD, WILLENHALL



74 VICTORIA ROAD, WEDNESFIELD



25 KIDDERMINSTER ROAD, HAGLEY, STOURBRIDGE



131 NINEVEH ROAD, BIRMINGHAM



LAND TO NORTH & SOUTH OF LANE ST, AT THE JCN OF ASH ST, BILSTON



43 BARRS ROAD, CRADLEY HEATH

Overhauled BMW keeps its character

By Sharon Walters

According to BMW, the 5 Series is the car most people associate the brand with – more so than even the iconic 3 Series. So when it's time for a new generation of the car that everyone in the premium executive segment has to beat, it's a pretty big deal.

With this in mind, it's no surprise to see that BMW has overhauled the outgoing car without changing its character much at all. The exterior styling is now more taut and muscular, while the technology on display in the cabin is second to none.

The bits you can't see are totally new, too. The chassis has been renewed and the extensive use of lightweight materials contributes to an overall weight saving of 100kg.

The front axle is a new double-wishbone set-up, coupled with a five-link system at the rear that helps give the kind of ride that rivals can only dream of matching.

It's a case of evolution rather than revolution in the looks department, but the minor changes that have been made turn the old car's bland styling into something altogether more purposeful. Inside, the interior is more functional than luxurious, but there's no denying the quality. The new touchscreen protrudes tablet-like from the dashboard and helps to de-clutter the centre console by moving more functions into its maze of menus.

Few cars ride quite as sumptuously as this 5 Series. But most impressive of all is the fact that this doesn't translate to the kind of wallowy cornering ability more commonly seen in fishing boats in a rough sea.

The large leather chairs – a pricey optional

extra – are instantly comfortable, and with a wide range of movement from them and the steering wheel, finding a driving position is easy. It all means that even after a four-hour stint behind the wheel, we arrived at our destination feeling fresh.

If cavernous load space is what you need, you might be better waiting for the estate version. However, the saloon 5 Series isn't lacking for luggage capacity. There are 530 litres of boot space, which makes it just 10 litres smaller than an equivalent Mercedes E-Class.

Families will be pleased to know that the interior is even more spacious than before with marginally more headroom and legroom all around.

BMW is pretty proud of the safety technology it has implemented, the most significant can be found in the Driving Assistant Plus package, which is a £2,250 option. Lane departure warning, traffic jam assist and adaptive cruise control are among those included here.

Some of these features can be annoyingly obtrusive in normal driving, but activate cruise control along with the lane departure system and the car becomes semi-autonomous, allowing you to take your hands off the wheel for short periods. It's really quite spooky.

The most popular engine variant will be the 2.0-litre four-cylinder unit in the 520d because it keeps both the taxman and the fleet manager happy. With 185bhp and 400Nm of torque it's no slouch, but comes with claimed economy figures of 68.9mpg and 108g/km of CO₂. However, those who can get away with it should go for the 530d. The 3.0-litre diesel makes 258bhp, but it's the way the 620Nm of torque is so deliciously delivered that

BMW 5 SERIES, FROM £35,245



New generation Series 5 BMW – handles well with improvements to the chassis and inside it packs better standard kit than before

delights. In fact, prod the drive mode selector into 'sport' and take control of the slick automatic gearbox via the wheel-mounted paddles and we'd argue it's actually more fun than the sportier 540i petrol.

For such a big car, the BMW 5 Series doesn't half handle well, and that's all down to improvements in the chassis. The car's 100kg lighter than before thanks to the extensive use of lightweight materials, while a new double-wishbone front axle has been tuned to find the balance between driving dynamics

and comfort – we reckon the engineers have nailed it.

The 5 Series' bread and butter is devouring motorway miles, and here it excels. The ride quality is unparalleled and means that however many hours a driver has to stare out of the windscreen, they'll feel relaxed at their destination.

Parking is made easy thanks to a suite of driver assists that use the central touchscreen to give both a bird's-eye view of the car's surroundings and a nifty rear-view camera.

The best goodies in the 5 Series are optional extras. It packs better standard kit than before, including a fully digital instrument display, LED headlights and widescreen navigation, which makes it competitive with rivals in this segment.

The new infotainment system is one of the best on the market. The touchscreen is as responsive and easy to use as any dedicated tablet, while the widescreen display means a lot of information can be displayed without it getting too cluttered.



T WALL - USED CAR AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SALE



	NOW		
11/61 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTi EXCITE 5-dr, Blue, 65,000 miles	£4995	12/12 FORD KUGA 2.0TDCi TITANIUM 5-dr, Silver, 29,000 miles	£11,495
09/59 VOLKSWAGON GOLF 1.6 TDi S 5-dr, Blue, 80,000 miles	£4995	12/62 NISSAN QUSHQAI 1.5DCi N-TEC 5-dr, Gold, 35,000 miles	£11,995
13/13 SUZUKI SWIFT 1.3 DDiS SZ3 5-dr, Silver, 22,000 miles	£5495	12/62 HYUNDAI ix35 1.7 CRDi PREMIUM 5-dr, White, 38,000 miles	£12,695
11/60 CITROEN C3 PICASSO 1.6 HDi VTR 5-dr, Grey, 31,000 miles	£5695	USED STOCK JUST ARRIVED	
15/65 SUZUKI CELERIO 1.0 S22 5-dr, White, 18,000 miles	£5995	08/58 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SXi 3-dr, Silver, 27,000 miles	£4295
10/10 CITROEN C3 PICASSO 1.6 HDi EXCLUSIVE 5-dr, Grey, 43,000 miles	£6695	07/07 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 DESIGN 3-dr, Silver, 28,000 miles	£4395
12/61 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTi SE 5-dr, Grey, 76,000 miles	£6995	10/59 CITROEN C3 1.4 VTi EXCLUSIVE 5-dr, Grey, 32,000 miles	£5995
12/12 RENAULT 1.5 DCi MEGANE ESTATE DYNAMIQUE White, 24,000 miles	£7695	12/62 KIA CEED 1.4i 5-dr, Red, 30,000 miles	£6995
14/64 PEUGEOT 108 1.2 VTi ALLURE 3-dr, Silver, 5000 miles	£7695	11/11 CITROEN DS3 1.6VTi 3-dr, Black/White, 52,000 miles	£6995
13/63 SEAT IBIZA 1.2 TSi FR SPORT COUPE 5-dr, Silver, 40,000 miles	£7995	13/63 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 DESIGN 5-dr, Grey, 21,000 miles	£8495
12/12 MINI 1.6 COOPER 2012 LONDON EDITION 3-dr, Silver, 34,000 miles	£8000	14/14 DACIA DUSTER 1.5 DCi LAUREATE 5-dr, Silver, 25,000 miles	£9495
14/14 DACIA SANDERO 1.5DCi STEPWAY AMBIANCE Blue, 22,000 miles	£8000	13/62 NISSAN JUKE 1.5DCi TEKNA 5-dr, Black, 27,000 miles	£9995
13/63 HYUNDAI i30 1.6 CRDi ACTIVE 5-dr, Silver, 15,000 miles	£8250	COMMERCIAL VEHICLES	
09/59 KIA SORENTO 2.5 CRD XS 4x4 5-dr, Silver, 67,000 miles	£8495	14/64 VAUXHALL COMBO 1.3 CDTi SPORTIVE VAN Silver, 24,000 miles	£7795 + VAT
14/63 VAUXHALL ASTRA GTC 1.7 CDTi Sri 3-dr, Red, 44,000 miles	£8695	14/64 VAUXHALL VIVARO 1.6CDTi 2900 LWB VAN White, 20,000 miles	£10,000 + VAT
13/13 DACIA DUSTER 1.5DCi LAUREATE 5-dr, Silver, 25,000 miles	£8995	15/65 TOYOTA PROACE 2.0HDI 120 VAN White, 26,000 Miles	£10,000 + VAT
13/13 HONDA CIVIC 1.4 VTEC SE 5-dr, Black, 27,000 miles	£8995	15/65 RENAULT TRAFIC LL29 DCi 115 VAN White, 17,000 miles	£12,000 + VAT
10/10 TOYOTA PRIUS 1.8 VVTi SPIRIT CVT AUTO HYBRID 5-dr, Grey, 64,000 miles	£9495	13/63 MITSUBISHI L200 D/CAB 2.5 176BHP PICKUP Grey, 36,000 Miles	£13,995 + VAT
14/64 MINI ONE 1.5D HATCHBACK 3-dr, Blue, 16,000 miles	£9995	16/16 VOLKSWAGON TRANSPORTER 2.0 TDi STARTLINE VAN White, 12,000 miles	£15,495 + VAT
13/63 SUZUKI 5x4 S CROSS 1.6 SZ5 5-dr, Black, 31,000 miles	£10,295	16/66 VAUXHALL VIVARO 1.6 CDTi SPORTIVE 2900 Grey, 7000 Miles	£15,495 + VAT
14/64 NISSAN JUKE 1.2 ACENTA PREMIUM 5-dr, White, 13,000 miles	£11,295	13/63 FORD RANGER 2.2TDCi D/CAB PICKUP Blue, 17,000 Miles	£17,195 (No VAT)

Please contact Craig or Keith
T Wall Garages
01384 288333
www.twall.co.uk

High Street, Pensnett,
Kingswinford
DY6 8XB
1 Mile from Russells Hall
Hospital, towards Kingswinford

Award winning family-run business – established 1953

Motability Premier Dealer



VAUXHALL

Perfect family driving mile after mile

By Andy Richardson

When the SX4 S Cross was being created, the design team presumably took a dozen or more families to one side, plied them with bottles of continental lager and said this: "Draw up a wishlist. Tell us everything you'd like to find in a decent, spacious family car."

And the guys with the continental lager went away and came up with a really, really, really long list.

It would have said things like: cruise control, the option to flit between automatic and manual, paddle controls on the steering wheel if you want to change gear so you haven't got to bother with a clutch – God, clutches are so 1972 – a radar warning system that slows things down if you approach the traffic ahead too quickly, heated seats with options for super warm and merely snugly. There'd be an integrated, digital entertainment console with DAB, USB, SatNav, Bluetooth and touch screen controls as well as smart buttons on the steering column.

And then, while they were getting in another round of continental lager and ordering burgers in brioche buns with extra pickle, they'd ask for three different drive modes – a regular, around-town-or-on-the-motorway mode, a sports mode for when you need to put your foot down and make the engine roar and then a snow/mud 4x4 mode for off-road fun days. There'd be basic comforts, plenty of storage in a split-level boot, the ability for the driver to disable rear window controls in case the kids are getting restless and lowering the windows on the motorway and then there'd be a humungous sun roof that covered both driver and passenger in the front and the kids

in the back. Oh, and before they polish off the last of their beers, they'd ask for shiny black alloy wheels, rear privacy glass, LED lights, knee bags as well as airbags, just in case anything ever went wrong.

The guys in the bar would smile a satisfied smile, hand in their lists and present them to Suzuki Design Co.

At that point, most self-respecting car manufacturers would look at the list, mutter something like 'are you joking, that'll cost a fortune' before ignoring the focus group's wish list and coming up with suggestions that are far more utilitarian and, frankly, not as damned expensive.

Packed

And yet the team behind the SX4 S Cross have done something remarkable. They've packed so much new technology into their car that it's difficult to know whether you should drive it or programme it. It's intuitive and responsive, it's light on its feet, the stereo pounds like Friday night in Da Klub.

For sure, the SX4 S Cross isn't the sexiest looking car on the market – neither inside nor out. It's a little clunky and a bit plastic-ey. It's a little bit boy-or-girl-next-door, rather than Hollywood Swoon Biscuit. But Hollywood Swoon Biscuit can be notoriously fickle while him-or-her-next-door is reliable, tried-and-trusted and avoids excess. And when it comes to good family cars, reliability wins out every time.

The SX4 S Cross drives beautifully. Suzuki's new BoosterJet technology packs plenty of torque into its ramped up 1.4 litre petrol engine while also providing better fuel economy than the 1.6 litre engine. Which is pretty clever, really. It's sturdy and robust, a



Sporty and dynamic, the SX4 S Cross combines stylish, city-orientated designs with genuine off-road ability

genuine Scrum Half of a car that's not going to get buffeted about on windy motorways and remains rigid and upright while off-roading.

Sporty and dynamic, the SX4 S Cross combines stylish, city-orientated designs with genuine off-road capability. The adaptive cruise control and radar brake support are among its most impressive features. When the car's in cruise control, it maintains a steady two-car distance from the vehicle in front without the driver needing to intervene. So if traffic slows on a 50mph motorway contraflow, the vehicle automatically breaks

for you. Just programme a desired speed and it sticks to it – slowing if the traffic ahead slows. It's one step closer to automatised driving.

Radar brake support is similarly helpful. If you're approaching the vehicle in front a little too quickly, the car kind of screeches: 'Woah, buster, slow down.'

You don't want to prang my shiny clamshell bonnet into the back of that BMW, do you? At which point, the driver steps off the gas and hits the brake. The panoramic skylight, meanwhile, is delightful – particularly when

you're off the beaten track or want to gaze at the stars.

Suzuki packs a lot of extras into its SX4 S Cross. BoosterJet, radar breaking, adaptive cruise control, a brilliant communication/entertainment system put the pleasure into driving. And, for the money, there's not a better car in its class. It comes in about £4,000 or £5,000 less than you might expect. The value for money that it offers is, frankly, astonishing. Comfort and convenience, sophistication and style: the SX4 S Cross offers perfect family driving, mile after mile.

ORDER YOUR NEW **17 PLATE** TODAY



THE NEW SUZUKI RANGE



FROM

£6999

0%APR FINANCE AVAILABLE WITH NO DEPOSIT ON SELECTED MODELS
REPRESENTATIVE*

Beat the Road Tax increase on April 1st

HALESOWEN MOTOR HOUSE

Dudley Road, Halesowen, West Midlands, B63 3NH. **0121 503 0001**
www.halesowenmotorhouse.co.uk

CLARKS OF KIDDERMINSTER

Worcester Road, Kidderminster DY10 1JR. **01562 862 822**
www.clarksofkidderminster.co.uk

MPG (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km) for Celerio range: Urban 55.3-68.9 (5.3-4.1), Extra Urban 76.3- 83.0 (3.7-3.4), Combined 65.7-78.4 (4.3-3.6), CO₂ emissions 99-84 g/km. Swift range: Urban 41.5-57.6 (6.8-4.9), Extra Urban 57.6-72.4 (4.9-3.9), Combined 50.4-65.7 (5.6-4.3), CO₂ emissions 128-99g/km. Vitara range: Urban 42.1-61.4 (6.7-4.6), Extra Urban 55.4-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 49.5-70.6 (5.7-4.0), CO₂ emissions 131-106 g/km. Baleno range: Urban from 44.8 (6.3) to 60.1 (4.7), extra urban from 68.8 (4.1) to 78.4 (3.6), combined from 57.6 (4.9) to 70.6 (4.0). Official CO₂ emissions from 115g/km to 94g/km. The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. *T&Cs apply. Subject to status, written quotations on request, guarantees or indemnities may be required.



A new bonnet, radiator grille, bumper and fog lights

Citigo gets new front end and an upgraded interior

OakGarage.co.uk

Oak Garage your local RAC Approved Dealer.



Only 300 Yards From Merry Hill Shopping Centre

Our Low Mileage Selection

13 Vauxhall Meriva 1.4T 16V Exclusiv Auto Brown Only 5000 Miles	£7,495
14 Ford C-max 1.6 TDCi Titanium Red Only 6000 Miles	£10,995
63 Peugeot 2008 1.6 e-HDi Active EGC Blue Only 7000 Miles	£9,495
13 Volkswagen Polo 1.4 Match Edition DSG Silver Only 9000 Miles	£9,495
65 Peugeot 308 1.6 BlueHdi 120 Allure Grey Only 10000 Miles	£11,295
64 Skoda Octavia 1.2 TSI S Blue Only 12000 Miles	£9,495
13 Citroen C3 Picasso 1.4 VTi 16V VTR+ Silver Only 12000 Miles	£6,495
64 Vauxhall Astra 1.6i 16V Elite Brown Only 12000 Miles	£9,295
Citroen	
59 Citroen C3 Picasso 1.6 HDi 16V VTR+ Red 58k	£4,795
63 Citroen C3 Picasso 1.6 VTi 16V VTR+ 5dr EGS6 Silver 27k	£7,495
13 Citroen C4 Grand Picasso 1.6 HDi Platinum Bronze 35k	£10,495
11 Citroen C4 Grand Picasso 1.6 HDi VTR+ EGS6 Blue 39k	£7,995
63 Citroen C4 Picasso 1.6 e-HDi 115 Air Exclusive+ Red 66k	£9,995
63 Citroen C4 Picasso 1.6 e-HDi 115 Airdream Exclusive Grey 24k	£9,995
63 Citroen C4 Picasso 1.6 HDi VTR Blue 69k	£7,995
07 Citroen C4 PICASSO 1.8 VTR+ Black 58k	£3,495
63 Citroen C6 2.7 HDi V6 Exclusive 4dr Auto White 79k	£11,995
57 Citroen C6 2.7 HDi V6 Lignage 4dr Auto Silver 62k	£7,995
58 Citroen C6 2.7 HDi V6 Lignage 4dr Auto Silver 63k	£6,495
13 Citroen DS3 1.6 e-HDi 115 Airdream DSport Plus 3dr Red 21K	£8,995
Ford	
63 Ford B-max Hatchback 1.6 Titanium Auto Grey 26k	£7,995
63 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec 5dr Black 32k	£6,995
63 Ford Fiesta 1.6 Zetec Powershift Silver	£7,995
13 Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi 115 Zetec 5dr Blue 14k	£8,995
14 Ford Grand C-max 1.6 TDCi Titanium 5dr Blue 36k	£10,995
Kia	
60 Kia Rio 1.5 CRDi 2 5dr Silver 105K	£2,795
13 Kia Sportage 1.7 CRDi ISG 1 Silver 40k	£10,995
64 Kia Sportage Diesel Estate 2.0 CRDi KX-2 Blue 18K	£15,995
14 Kia Venga 1.6 2 5dr Auto Blue 35k	£7,495
Nissan	
63 Nissan Juke 1.5 dCi Acenta Start Stop Black 32K	£8,795
63 Nissan Juke 1.6 16v Acenta Premium CVT Black 25k	£9,995
63 Nissan Juke 1.6 Tekna 5dr Black 19k	£9,995
14 Nissan Note 1.2 DIG-S Acenta Premium CVT White 42k	£7,995
Peugeot	
63 Peugeot 2008 1.6 e-HDi Active EGC Brown 21k	£8,995
63 Peugeot 208 1.4 e-HDi FAP Allure EGC Red 15k	£8,295
63 Peugeot 3008 1.6 e-HDi 115 Active II EGC Blue 31K	£8,295
14 Peugeot 3008 1.6 e-HDi Active 5dr EGC Silver 31k	£9,795
14 Peugeot 308 1.6 HDi 115 Active White 43k	£7,995
63 Peugeot 5008 1.6 HDi Active 5dr Blue 42k	£9,495
63 Peugeot Bipper Tepee 1.3 HDi 15 Style EGC Blue 23k	£6,995
Vauxhall	
63 Vauxhall Astra Tourer 2.0 CDTi 16v SRi Auto Est Black 47k	£7,795
58 Vauxhall Combo Tour 1.3 CDTi Auto With Wheelchair Ramp	£2,995
14 Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 SRi 5dr AC Red 61K	£5,995
60 Vauxhall Meriva 1.7 CDTi 16V 130 SE Silver 32k	£5,995
63 Vauxhall Zafira 1.7 CDTi ecoFLEX Design Nav Silver 40k	£7,995
15 Vauxhall Zafira Tourer 2.0 CDTi Exclusiv Black 13k	£11,495

Others

63 Audi A1 1.2 TFSI S Line 3dr White 30k	£11,995
61 Chevrolet Spark Hatchback 1.2i LT Blue 78k	£2,795
60 Honda Accord 2.0 i-VTEC EX 4dr Auto Silver 36K	£9,495
06 Honda Civic 1.8 i-VTEC SE Blue 87k	£2,995
04 Jaguar X-type 2.0d Classic 4dr Blue 103k	£1,495
63 Renault Captur 0.9 TCe Dynamique Nav Black 25k	£8,995
06 Renault Clio 1.6 VVT Privilege Blue 26k	£2,995
63 Seat Ibiza 1.2 TSI SE 5dr DSG Silver 21K	£7,495
63 Seat Leon 1.6 TDI SE DSG Tech Pack Silver 33k	£9,495
63 Skoda Fabia 1.2 TSI 105 SE DSG Blue 27K	£7,495
59 Skoda Fabia Estate 1.6 16V 1 5dr Tiptronic Grey 94k	£2,995
64 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 TDI GTD DSG White 17K	£17,995
06 Volvo S60 D5 SE 4dr Geartronic 185 Green 91k	£3,795

Specialists In One Owner, Low Mileage, Full Service History, Ex Motability Vehicles

Finance Arranged Within 60 Mins

From **4.99%**

Flat Rate / APR Variable

For A Quick Decision Call Us Now

01384 906030

Application Requirements

- ✓ Driving Licence
- ✓ Bank Details
- ✓ 2 Proofs Of Address
- ✓ Employers Details
- ✓ Self Employed Available
- ✓ Retired Facility Available
- ✓ Loans Subject To Status



From spring, the Škoda Citigo is being presented with comprehensive upgrades to the exterior design and some revisions in the interior.

Bonnet, radiator grille, bumpers and fog lights with optional cornering function come in a new design. Specially designed 15-inch alloy wheels complete the new look. Škoda's city car impresses with its generous amount of space, excellent layout, high level of safety, great handling, efficient drivetrain variants and numerous 'Simply Clever' features. Value for money – typical of the brand – rounds off the city runabout's offering. The Škoda Citigo will celebrate its premiere at the Geneva International Motor Show next month.

With the revisions, the Citigo has grown by 34 mm to a length of 3,597 mm. The width of the five-door version remains at 1,645 mm and the height at 1,478 mm. Thanks to its generous 2,420-mm wheelbase, Škoda engineers were able to create an interior which also offers sufficient space for rear passengers. The 251 litre boot, which increases to 951 litres when the rear seats are down, ranks amongst the best competitor values.

It is the perfect vehicle for urban mobility: compact yet spacious, economical and nimble at the same time, attractive, safe and equipped with many practical 'Simply Clever' features.

Available in S, SE, SE L and Monte Carlo trim levels, UK customers can also opt for the stylish Colour Edition.



A Kiwi Green body colour is a new addition

The front section has been: a new bonnet, a redesigned radiator grille in typical Škoda design, modified bumpers and updated fog lights create a fresh, young look. The tinted tail lights are now also available for the SE trim line. A colour package with roof and wing mirrors offset in white or black is available for Colour Edition.

The front headlights are fitted with LED daytime running lights and the fog lights come with an optional cornering function, which lights up the area the vehicle is turning into on junctions with poor visibility. To this end, the cornering function automatically switches on the left or right fog light when turning at speeds of up to 25 mph.

New 15-inch alloy wheels in silver and anthracite for the SE L trim level and the Kiwi Green body colour, which is a new addition to the programme, complete the options for creating an individual exterior design.

One of the many active safety features is the automatic braking function City Safe Drive. The optional Emergency Brake helps to prevent collisions in urban traffic. The assistance system is automatically activated at speeds between 3 and 19 mph. A laser sensor, integrated in the windscreen, scans a 10-metre area in front of the car. In the event of an impending collision – if the driver does not react – the braking system is primed and the hydraulic Brake Assist function becomes more sensitive. If necessary, the system initiates a full application of the brakes to bring the car to a standstill or – if the driver is not braking hard enough – supports the driver by providing full braking.

The interior has a clean and clearly arranged design and layout of the instruments as well as with a two-colour dashboard in the higher trim levels. The new-generation Blues and Swing radio models offer many connectivity options – ranging from an aux-in socket to an SD card slot and a USB socket. A colour display, six speakers and a Bluetooth connection are added to the Swing variant.

Two modern three-cylinder petrol engines are available. The front-, transverse-mounted engines with a 1.0-litre capacity drive the front wheels. Despite their small capacity, the engines distinguish themselves through high torque with low noise levels. The entry-level engine is the 1.0 MPI with 60 PS and 95 Nm of torque at 3,000 rpm. From a standing start, it accelerates the Citigo to 62 mph in 14.4 seconds, reaches a top speed of 100 mph and averages 68.9mpg on the combined cycle.

With the 75 PS 1.0 MPI, maximum torque of 95 Nm is available at 3,000 rpm. The additional power is due to the modified engine control of the three-cylinder model. It accelerates to 62mph in 13.5 seconds, reaches a top speed of 107 mph and averages 68.9mpg on the combined cycle. All values apply to the variant with 5-speed manual gearbox, with start-stop system and brake energy recovery.

Another 100 Low Mileage Cars Available Soon See Details At:

www.oakgarage.co.uk

Unit 1, Sterling Park, Brierley Hill DY5 1TB

Tel: 01384 906030

Opening Times: Mon-Thu: 9-6, Fri-Sat: 9-5, Sun: 11-4





Local Specialists

Blinds & Curtains

Blinds4Less

Choose From a fantastic range!
-Pleated -Venetians
-Romans -Curtains
-Verticals -Awnings
-Rollers -Shutters
New range of Chainless Verticals
and Night and Day Rollers
Give us a try before you buy!
Contact us on
01384 886162
and 07989 588728
Blinds4lessdirect.com

Builders

C ETHERIDGE BUILDING SERVICES

- Extensions
- Alterations
- Roofing
- Landscaping
- Block paving
- General property maintenance.

Over 35yrs experience
For a FREE quote call Chris
01384 635627
07989 738732

Driveways

DISCOUNT DRIVEWAYS

**Block Paving and Tarmac
Drives • Paths • Patios
Slabbing • Red Tarmac
Car Parks**

**5 Year Guarantee
On All Work**

Free Quotations and Advice

Tel: 01384 79900 • 07583 170190
www.discountdriveways.co.uk



Electricians

BRADLEY ELECTRICAL & MAINTENANCE

Est 1987

All electrical work undertaken
Fully qualified & insured
Installation Condition Reports
No job too small
★ **FREE ESTIMATES** ★

Electrical Safety
Register



Call Paul 01384 344589 or
07812 435833
www.bradleyelectrical.net

Gardening

ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES LTD

*Tree Surgeon Specialist *Stump Grinding/Root Removal
*Hedges Pruned/Shaped *Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes
*Fencing *Turfing *Concreting *Driveways & Patios
*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation

WWW.ROWANGROUP.CO.UK

01384 213644 or 07733 226568

AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified,
Public Liability Insurance (£5 million) All staff C.R.B. Certified
PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES

R.A. GARDEN SERVICES

Established 24 years

Gardening & Landscaping Services

Including: • Tree Lopping • Hedge Cutting
• Lawn Mowing • Fencing & Slabbing
• Low Maintenance Landscaping • Gardens Cleared
FULLY INSURED • OAP DISCOUNTS

FOR FREE QUOTE CALL:

07970 876 638 • 01384 569 148

www.ragardenservices.net

Double Glazing

MISTY UNITS REPLACED

Buy Direct from the manufacturer. Est. 1999

Reduce heat loss by up to 75%

Also upgrade your existing double glazed units to Pilkington
Energlaze, it will help to reduce the amount of heat lost
through your windows by up to 75%, lock, handles, hinges.



**WITH A 10 YEAR
GUARANTEE AND
FITTING SERVICE
AVAILABLE**

WE HAVE A NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER

01384 918383

Delph Glazed Units

Unit 32 Delph Rd Ind Est (by the tank), Brierley Hill DY5 2UA

Visit our new website

www.delphglazedunits.co.uk

Mobile: 07887 520599

Decorating

A.S. Painter & Decorator

Interior & Exterior
FREE ESTIMATES
Cleanliness
Assured

Call:
07730
477564

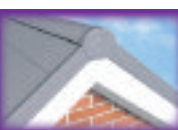
Driveways & Patios

JDC Driveways & Patios

Tarmac, Block Paving,
Turf Laying, Graveling,
Fencing, Drainage and
Pressure Cleaning

Free quotation
No obligation
01384 466950 /
07944883248
www.jdclandscapes.co.uk

Fascias Soffits & Guttering



Roberts Guttering Services

- Supply and fit uPVC soffits and fascias
- Local specialists in dry verge systems
- Call Robert for a FREE quote
07767 869 792

Electricians

MB electric

All domestic and commercial
electrical works undertaken
Home rewiring from £800
For a high quality
local service call:
01384 660398
07939 503905
mbelectric.co.uk

Local Specialists



Misted Sealed Units?

Black Country Glazing

Contact US for a FREE quote!

**Manufacturers
& Installers of
windows, doors &
conservatories**

'A' Rated Windows as Standard

10 YEAR GUARANTEE

Please see our customer reviews
on either Homepro or Which

**Energy efficient windows
that won't cost the earth**

Station Street, Cradley Heath, B64 6AJ

Est 1987 01384 566100

www.blackcountryglazing.com



M&M Fascias

Quality

- uPVC • Fascias • Soffits • Guttering
- Tile Edging • Roofing

Also CONCRETE GUTTERING

Specialist removal
Replacing with
Modern low maintenance
Upvc Fascias and Soffits

**No Free
Gimmicks
Family
Business
Local
References
if required**

**All work
guaranteed
with HomePro
Insurance**

Registered with

Membership
No. 554518

Giving homeowners peace of mind
**ALWAYS FREE ADVICE
AND QUOTATION**
Freephone 0800 799 9413
Mob: 07906 724736
to speak to Mark
123 Amblecote Road, Brierley Hill,
West Midlands DY5 2YD

To advertise your business and reach more than 56,000 potential customers...

1

Call us on...
01384 399901

2

E-mail us at...
sue.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

3

Post to...
Sue Jones, Stourbridge Chronicle
3 Market Street, Stourbridge DY8 1AB

Local Specialists



Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesman to deal with your needs and requirements.

Roofing

ELITE PLASTICS

• Fascias • Softs • Dry Verge
• Pointing • Gutter Cleaning And Repair
Premium Products Expertly Fitted
With Full Manufacture Guarantee.

For A Free Quote call
01384 468831 / 07985 575865
www.eliteplasticsupvc.co.uk

ROOFING SERVICES

One of the Leading Roofing Companies
No Job too Small, No Job too Big

- Gutters Cleaned From £15
- Small Repairs From £15
- Pointing Work From £15

SPECIAL OFFERS
on all UPVC Fascias, Gutters, New Roofs/Slate Tile & Felt and Garage Roofs.

- Rubberised flat roofing
- Flat roof specialist
- Insurance work undertaken
- Est 25 years
- Discounted for OAPs
- Exterior Painting

FREE QUOTES AVAILABLE

Home: 01384 872276
Mobile: 07584 081228

Plumbing & Heating

Combi Doc

Gas Safe registered 120506

Get your boiler serviced and ready for winter

Special Offers Now On!

Insulation, repairs and services on boilers, fires and cookers

Install A band condensing boiler with free wireless room stat from £1250
Ex British Gas with 30 years experience

07956 830204

J.S.O. PLUMBING SOLUTIONS

WE OFFER SOLUTIONS TO:
Leaking Taps, Blocked Drains,
Leaking Pipes, Supply And Fitting Of New
Bathrooms, Kitchens And Tiling.

For all inquiries call
07964 707950

KEN PERRY

PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEER
Gas Fitting, Boiler Servicing
and Immersion Heaters,
Multi Point Water Heaters,
Landlord's Gas Certificates,
Boilers changed
Guild of Master Craftsmen
Gas Safe Registered

STOURBRIDGE 392284

Local Specialists



Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesman to deal with your needs and requirements.

Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

funeral directors

WOMBOURNE FUNERAL SERVICES

Funeral Directors
Funerals from £1,350
plus Disbursements

Pre-paid plans. 24hr call-out
Private Chapels of Rest

Wombourne & Kinver
Memorials
Monumental Masons
Memorials from £450

Wombourne 01902 892635
Perton 01902 756830
Kinver 01384 873499
Wall Heath 01384 274222
wombournefuneralservices.co.uk

A TRADITION OF TRUST



"We are very pleased with the service offered by the Express & Star. Our business and advertising needs are always well met."

Wombourne
Funeral Services.

For great business results call
01902 319 191

ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

J.T. BROOKES

Independent family run
Funeral Directors
24 hour service
Brierley Hill 01384 77098
Kingswinford 01384 296683
Hagley 01562 888041

www.nedowning.co.uk

religious notices

christadelphian

BIBLE ANSWERS TO TODAY'S PROBLEMS
The problem of death, February 26, at 6pm, The Community Centre, High Street, Kingswinford. Or write to The Dawn (ref:KCE) 5 Station Road, Carlton, Notts. NG4 3AT for free information pack or ring 01384 886544 for recorded message.

caravans / motorhomes

We Want Your Motorhome

Finance Cleared
Fast Secure Payment
Top Prices Paid

Please Call
AEG on 01384 848439 or
Lee Jinks on 07740 895448
www.aegmotorhomes.co.uk



COSALT MADEIRA
HOLIDAY STATIC
CARAVAN
35 x 12, DG, CH, 2 bedroom, on 11 months licence, with onsite clubhouse.
Stourport-on-Severn.
£13,500.

For full details call
07810 044813 or 07801 530894.

LET US SELL YOUR CARAVAN/
Motorhome for you and get the best possible price. Severn Valley Leisure, DY8 4HP. 01384 390183

QUALITY CARAVAN

WILLERBY STATIC
CARAVAN
Mid Wales, DG, CH, 2 bedroom and 1 sofa bed. Large decking area overlooking river. Ground rent paid till March 2018.
£10,000 ono.
07855 483259.

caravans wanted

WANTED ALL CARAVANS

Any age or condition
Also motorhomes wanted.
TOP PRICES PAID
Immediate collection.

CALL THOMAS
07717 280 996

WANTED

CARAVAN WANTED
Cash on pick up asap.
Caravan wanted, call me any time on
07717 090817

TOURING CARAVAN WANTED,
no objection to work, anything considered. Please telephone
07980 365757.

jumble sales / fetes

BRIC-A-BRAC FAIR
Sunday 26th February
Net Sale: 12th March
KINVER COMMUNITY CENTRE
DY7 6ER
10.30am - 4pm
Tel: 01384 894464

sports & leisure

FULL SET of Golf Clubs for sale.
£100.
01384 896654.

holidays

caravan parks

LUXURY HOLIDAY HOME for Sale
on 5* Park, DG, CH, bar & restaurant. Child & pet friendly. 20 acres walking woodland £24,995 inc 2017 site fees Call 01568 708 326.

what's on

markets

BESCOT SUNDAY MARKET

OPEN EVERY SUNDAY
Banks' Stadium, Walsall FC
WS1 4SA, FREE PARKING, J9 M6
07889 975701 All hard standing

3 Home & Services

furniture

BROWN LEATHER suite, 2, two seater sofas, 1 reclining chair, £250 ono. 01902 674714.

LEATHER RECLINING Three piece suite, two tone grey, 6 months old. £800 ono. 01902 784911.

in your garden

LAWN TRACTOR
22hp, 42 inch cut with collector, totally new and unused.
Cost £4,000.
Will accept £1,995.
Can deliver.
Telephone 07710 169150.

items for sale

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

items wanted

ALL GOLD 9CT £300 PER OUNCE
CASH PAID TODAY
No amount too small.
A GENUINE LADY BUYER
All Bewick • Doulton • Worcester Moorcroft
• Lladro • Old coins
• WATCHES • COSTUME JEWELLERY
• Diamonds and Gold Coins • Clocks • Paintings
• ALL SILVER • All Oriental Items
Pre-47 silver coins All war medals etc
ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

A BEST CASH PRICE



FOR ALL RAILWAY COLLECTIONS
Any gauge or age
Hornby/Bachmann/Bowmans/
Roundhouse/Graham/Farsh/
any live steam. Also Die Cast,
Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.
01384 836219 / 07891 713547
thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com

A BEST PRICE PAID All collectables from wars wanted by collector, medals, helmets, swords etc. 07511 500337.

GOOD PRICES PAID for blue-rays & modern clean clothes adults and children's, can collect. 07531 168310.

J40 PEDAL CAR Auto cycle, Sinclair City, Vintage vending machines, anything old. Old fire arms. 01384 484309 / 07930 949337.

MYFORD METAL cutting lathe wanted, all condition. 7.5ml7 wanted any condition considered. 01922 445739.

OLD POCKET and wrist watches wanted, all condition. 7.5ml7 wanted any condition considered. 01922 445739.

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

RECORDS WANTED
50's, 60's, 70's, Rock, Punk, Rock / Roll, Jazz / 90's Indie.
Collections bought.
Music Memorabilia, Promo Posters, autographs, etc, etc.
Top prices paid.
Telephone 07966 252439.

SPECTRUM GAMES Wanted, plus any Spectrum 128k +2 computer wanted also any old Crash magazines wanted. 01902 892918.

t.v. / home entertainment

service

Free Ads

IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
For items up to £250.
Online at
bookandexpressandstar.co.uk

AERIAL & TV SPECIALIST
Any TV Repairs, Plasma, LED etc, CCTV cameras supplied & fitted. Any area. Free Estimates. 7 days. Digital aerials, Sky installation. Wall mounts / TV setups. 07850 330251.

CLASSIFIEDS DELIVERS RESULTS



"TV Link are really pleased with their response from their Classified Campaign"

Bill - TV Link
For great business results call
01902 319 191

ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

specialists at your service

aerials

CLASSIFIEDS DELIVERS RESULTS



"I am very pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising Contract"

Steve - AA Digital Aerials

For great business results call
01902 319 191

ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

A AERIAL AND SKY SPECIALIST
CCTV cameras fitted to wallmount, free quote/any area. 07850 330251

AA DIGITAL AERIALS

SATELLITE & CCTV
AERIALS FITTED FROM £75
Work Guaranteed
01902 358191
07934 429101
01543 439095
01922 716029
07833 738857

electrical services

STEVE JONES ELECTRICAL
Reviews/sockets/fuse boards etc.
All domestic and commercial work.
07786 858977/01902 846167.

fencing

PORTWAY FENCING

SPECIAL OFFER
6 x 5 Heavy Duty Lap Panels
£1,295 each
Fitting service available or DIY

0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 8am - 12noon
83 Parkway Rd, Wbury
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

carpet & upholstery cleaning

CLASSIFIEDS DELIVERS RESULTS



"I am very pleased with my Classified Advertising Campaign"

Steve - Brill Clean.

For great business results call
01902 319 191

ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

gardening services

GARDENS TIDIED from £5 per garden. 25 years experience. Call 01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

gas fitting

READERS ARE ADVISED
To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered.
It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

house clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327

ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING CLEARED

FULL OR PART
GARAGES / SHEDS,
RUBBISH REMOVED
WASTE LICENCE
01384 486456 / 07711661135

painters / decorators

A PROFESSIONAL DECORATING service by RC Decorating. Free competitive quotes. 07773 025860.

LOVE 2 WALL PAPER
Reliable & Friendly, Professional Female Painters & Decorators
Attention to detail, competitive prices.
For the Perfect Finish with minimum hassle.
Plastering & Coving Work Undertaken
01384 287577 or 07812 484194
www.love2-wallpaper.co.uk

plastering

M & S PLASTERING & BUILDING Services. Home/Garden Improvements. Mark or Sara: 07741 770897

skip hire

BIG JOHN MOVES RUBBISH!
No Skips, we load, fast friendly service. 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2 8JR. Est 35 years, 01384 232359.

roofing

MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07850 465449.

ONE STOP ROOFING

The Flat Roofing Specialists
Specialising in: Felt, Fibreglass
& Tiling, Repointing & Chimney
Repairs, Fascias and Guttering.

FOR 1 MONTH ONLY
GET YOUR FLAT ROOF
REPLACED WITH FIBREGLASS
FOR THE SAME PRICE AS A FELT
ROOF & GUARANTEED
FOR 25 YEARS
(Felt only 10 year guarantee)

Family Business est 30 Years
0800 0855277 or 07538471274

removals

A & M CHEAP REMOVALS
Local
Careful Firm
Full or Part loads
Call Don:
07749 941319

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209 / 01902 890870 / 01384 940260.

CALL IAN: Man with a large van. No job too small, no distance too far. 07973 628534, 01902 891535.

KT HOUSE REMOVALS
12 years experience.
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:
07771 727119

KINGSWINFORD REMOVALS AND HOUSE CLEARANCES
We move anything.
Professional service,
45 years' experience,
DFS approved and we
take the stress away.
Please call:
07966 281957

4

Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

GRAZING WANTED for horses, upto 20 acres, prepared to fence field. Any area considered. 01384 78588 / 07572 687123.

FOR WILLIAMS 505 Trailer, blue, alloy floor, kept in barn. Good condition. £1,700. 07986 899681 / 01743 719582.

pets corner

GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS
All neutered, inoculated and microchipped.
Call 01922 41212 or
www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk
f RGT Wolverhampton
@RGTWolves

VERY SWEET CATS
One ten year old girl, other 11 year old boy, looking for home together, they are house cats, not used to going outside, suit retired persons or someone living alone.
07847 360784.

DOG KENNEL and run, 5 months old, 6ft high x 6ft deep, x 4ft wide. £200 ono. Buyer to dismantle and collect. 0121 520 7125.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

5

Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

commercial premises sale / let

MODERN SECURE UNIT to let, approx 1,200 sq ft, Cradley Heath, rent negotiable. 07585 124202.

plant, machinery & tools

WHY USE SCAFFOLDING?
When a Niftylift 120t will do the job!

from **£50** +vat per day!*

Suitable for Trade & DIY
Hire . Sales . Training . Service
www.facelift.co.uk
*minimum one week hire

facelift call us on **0121 313 07 77**

6

Property

overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

properties wanted

WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERY TIME!
Sell your HOUSE - SIMPLE
You agree the price, we buy the house.
• NO AGENTS FEES • COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
• FREE SOLICITORS • ANY HOUSE, ANY CONDITION
0800 999 999 6
or 01384 226086 24/7 www.black-country-homes.co.uk

CASH NOW subject to credit checks
FOR YOUR HOUSE
• Legal Fees Paid • Guaranteed Offer • We can buy your house in 7 days!
• No Fees • Repossessions Stopped
0800 389 6788 days
01902 628047 Lines open 24 hours a day 7 days a week subject to terms

Need to sell your home fast? Purchase Agreed Within 7 DAYS
We can help you make a fresh start
With solutions to suit ... you can clear your debts and make a fresh start
ALL CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDERED
COMPLETE ON DATE TO SUIT
FREE VALUATION AND LEGALS
FREE FRIENDLY ADVICE
LOCAL COMPANY
MARION | PROPERTY SOLUTIONS
WHY NOT CALL US TODAY
for an informal, friendly and confidential chat?
01384 930 978 *Terms and Conditions apply
OUR LINES ARE OPEN 24/7

CLASSIFIEDS DELIVERS RESULTS
"I am really pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising!"
Paul Westwood - Home Cash Buyer
For great business results call **01902 319 191**
Brought to you by **Express & Star**

CLASSIFIEDS DELIVERS RESULTS
"We have been advertising in the Express & Star and Chronicles for over 20 years and consider it a key part of our business with the regular flow of calls, which our advertising generates."
Black Country Homes
For great business results call **01902 319 191**
Brought to you by **Express & Star**

CLASSIFIEDS DELIVERS RESULTS
"We have been advertising in the Express & Star and Chronicles for over 20 years and consider it a key part of our business with the regular flow of calls, which our advertising generates."
Black Country Homes
For great business results call **01902 319 191**
Brought to you by **Express & Star**

Home Cash Buyer
Sell today, sign today, complete when you wish
£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££
Houses / Land Required
Ring Paul 24/7 Local **07870 341 089**
Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154
Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049
Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

ONE BED studio flat, Cradley Road, Netherton, DY2 9PL, very nice condition, £85pw. Also 2 bed apartment, Parkes Hall Road, Dudley, DY1 3SP, £120pw. 07850 588620.

SEDGLEY ONE BED self contained flat, suit single, mature person. No DSS/ret's required. 07948 182489.

land

SINGLE BUILDING plot, Bradmore, planning permission for Bungalow, £45,000. Exchange considered. 07774 898966. 01902 747180.

7

Jobs

employment wanted

BUILDER Seeks employment, brick-laying, garden, walls, block paving, fencing, decking, concreting. 07539 986217.

courses

BIRMINGHAM: 21-22 JUNE
WOLVERHAMPTON: 15-16 JULY
Accredited **ocn** Open College Network
Learn how to take blood TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST
NATIONALLY RECOGNISED AND ACCREDITED
Introduction to Phlebotomy
TWO DAY COURSE - National UK Qualification
NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED
More info or to book: **www.geospace.com**
HIGH DEMAND IN: Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Clinics - Private Sector - Community - MOD

8

Motoring

cars over £1500

BMW X1 XDRIVE 1.8SE
2010, metallic silver, one owner 50789 miles, new MOT, BMW FSH, zonal aircon, electric and heated front seats, parking sensors, DAB radio, extras. £8,975
07429 118849

FIAT GRANDE PUNTO
1.4 sport 2007, 73,000 miles, blue, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, alarm, part history, full MoT, 2 owners, two keys.
lovely condition.
£1,650. o.n.o.
07538 750391.

FORD FIESTA V reg. 1999, MoT August 17, 3 owners, very clean inside and out, £350 ono. 07391 319651.

FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC CLIMATE
5dr Hatchback, 2007, extras. Air con, CD, alloys, mats, heated front screen, 84,849 miles, SH, 12 month MoT, very good condition.
£1,649.
07739 267589.

FORD MONDEO 2.0 GHIA
2004 plate, 84k, same owner last 4 years, Blue, Long MoT.
£795.
07913 981460.

MAZDA TS2
Hatchback, 5-door, 59 plate. Metallic grey, alarm, air con, alloys, diamond bright. CD / radio, petrol, FSH. MoT October 2017. Only 27,000 miles, one owner.
£3,499 ono.
01562 882332.

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY JOBSDAY
Every Thursday our special jobs section is packed with the week's latest vacancies.
Make sure you get your copy - it might be just what you've been waiting for.
jobs.expressandstar.com
REAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

SUZUKI IGNIS SPORT
2004, 75,000 Miles, 1.5L, 2 owners, Silver, abs, electric windows, air bag, 12 months MoT, central locking, pas, Alloys, CD, Recaro Seats, £995 ono
07402867767

LOOK
SUZUKI WAGON R 1.3GL+
52 reg, silver, 5-door, clean, reliable car, MoT, only 29,000 miles from new.
£450 ono
07817 435084.

AUTOMATIC
TOYOTA YARIS GLS
AUTOMATIC, 1.3, Nov 2000 reg, factory fitted sunroof, power steering, 3-dr, metallic black, MoT Nov 24, 2017, One former keeper. 65,000 miles, £795 ono.
07923 132859

LOW MILEAGE
SUZUKI ALTO
2014, Red, 5Dr, 12,000 miles, immaculate condition, full MoT. Genuine calls only.
£4,200.
01902 496149
or
07951 664184.

MUST BE SEEN
VAUXHALL CORSA
SX1 2013
57,000 miles.
Black.
ABS. E/W. Air bag.
E/M. Air Con. Alarm.
Mot'd. Metallic Paint.
C/L. Cruise control.
PAS. Alloys. Stereo/CD.
£4,100 ono.
07930 557368.

1ST TO SEE WILL BUY
VAUXHALL INSIGNIA
2 LITRE CDTI SRI
60,000 miles.
Black, 60 reg.
MoT.
Excellent condition.
£4,250 ono.
07913 981460.

cars under £1500

1ST TO SEE WILL BUY
FORD MONDEO 2.0 GHIA
2004 plate, 84k, same owner last 4 years, Blue, Long MoT.
£795.
07913 981460.

KIA CARENS CRDI LX
04, 5dr hatch, diesel, 63,000 miles, very good condition with fsh, 7 months MoT, AC, EW, CD, stereo, roof rails, anti theft system.
£1,200 ono
07436 868110.



SUZUKI IGNIS SPORT
2004, 75,000 Miles, 1.5L, 2 owners, Silver, abs, electric windows, air bag, 12 months MoT, central locking, pas, Alloys, CD, Recaro Seats, £995 ono
07402867767

LOOK
SUZUKI WAGON R 1.3GL+
52 reg, silver, 5-door, clean, reliable car, MoT, only 29,000 miles from new.
£450 ono
07817 435084.

AUTOMATIC
TOYOTA YARIS GLS
AUTOMATIC, 1.3, Nov 2000 reg, factory fitted sunroof, power steering, 3-dr, metallic black, MoT Nov 24, 2017, One former keeper. 65,000 miles, £795 ono.
07923 132859

LOW MILEAGE
VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN
1.2
04 reg, 5-door, excellent condition, 12 months MoT.
£1,375 ono
07572 608894.

MUST BE SEEN
VW POLO 1400
Full MoT, silver, good runner / condition inside and out, radio/CD, alloys.
£675 ono.
01902 862610.

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

classic cars
WANTED, CLASSIC Cars. Private cash buyer. Instant cash settlement. Any age. Any condition. 01630 652993 or 07773 462797.

commercial vehicles
MERCEDES SPRINTERVan 313, LWB, F reg. 02. 6 months MoT. 2 new tyres. New exhaust/tail pipe. £1,000. 07373 739218.

scrap vehicles
OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.
A BETTER PRICE for scrap damaged cars and commercials. Spares for sale.
NINE LOCKS VEHICLE DISMANTLERS LTD
Brierley Hill 01384 76566 or 70553. Evenings 75397. DY5 3JZ.

vehicles wanted

alan reed cars
Used cars wanted for cash Top prices paid. HP settled. Buyer could call.
01562 711083 / 07831 245313

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, buyer will call.

SMALL VAN wanted Berlingo or Peugeot Partner. 01902 713465. 07967 952821

spares & accessories

clutches / brakes / gearboxes

A CLUTCH CHANGE MOBILE
For Example:
Citroen C1, C2, C3
Hyundai 110, Toyota Yaris
Clio5 & Micras
Ring for quotes on others!
30 yrs experience
ALL AREAS COVERED
Call Bob
01384 251328
07972 169554
anytime

9

Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on
01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

10

Personals

personal

A BEST CASH PRICE PAID FOR DIE CAST CARS / LORRIES / TOY SOLDIERS
Air fix, Britains, Corgi, Dinky, Spot on, Tri-ang. Best prices paid. Any condition. Collections bought.
Telephone **01922 327897** or **07976 691563**.

DINING SOCIAL GROUP
Are you tired of dining on your own? Want to meet other like minded friendly people on a fortnightly basis? If so text me on the number below for regular invites in the Stourbridge area.
Telephone **07429 650050**.

MEET SEXY local women, genuine adult contacts, fast & discreet. Call 0330 022 6244 / 07006 026348.

YOUNG AT HEART 60 YEAR OLD LADY
No ties, wishes to meet Gentleman for Companionship, meals, theatre, walks and holidays, for Friendship or maybe more.

Box Number P20710,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Express & Star DATING

Here's how to use your dating service ...

To **Place** your advert call:

0844 381 5936

follow the simple instructions. You will also get **£10 SMS CHAT CREDIT**

YOU can now **Date ONLINE** or via your mobile just visit:

http://dating.expressandstar.com

To **Place** your ad by text

Simply text **REG** followed by your first name, date of birth, area and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to **80098 FREE** Standard Network rates apply.

YOUR regional dating service, run by the dating experts who have been established since 1990. **REAL people in YOUR region**

Try it..
You'll love it!



Dates in **YOUR** region

Been left a message?

Pickup your replies on:

0906 500 3957

calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

THE biggest UK on-line database of 17 million UK REAL users waiting to meet **you.. visit..**

http://dating.expressandstar.com

Single Women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

CHLOE pretty single female 36yrs, dark hair/eyes, slim build, very lonely and looking for reliable discreet male for mutual companionship maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426079

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673

BROWN eyed Brummie female, 66, smoker, likes music, cinema, theatre, meals out. WLTm male 67-74 for LTR. Text only. Mailbox: 5780679

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. Tel: No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715

KELLY young attractive vivacious 48yr old lady, loves good food, cosy nights in/out, holidays etc, WLTm male for mutual companionship without ties. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425913

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 413399

EILEEN mid 60s seeks gent 50s-60s for friendship, possibly much more. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425341

EMILY, mature well educated lady, blonde and smart and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3023 Box 421375

KELLY young attractive vivacious 48yr old lady, loves good food, cosy nights in/out, holidays etc, WLTm male for mutual companionship without ties. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425913

SARAH, 38yrs, married, seeking chap for no strings intimate times. Special friendship, mutual respect. Give me a call. Tel: 0906 515 3031 Box 408291

DONNA naughty 40's, pretty, loves nights in, gym, theatre, seeks someone to make me laugh, give lots of cuddles and go on fun dates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425867

TAMIKA, mature black beauty, gorgeous figure and open minded. Pls call if you are discreet, broad minded and nice. I can travel and accommodate. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3007 Box 422365

DAWN 33yr old female looking for companionship with understanding, non-jealous male 35-55yrs. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425849

CARLY, 34yrs, attractive and discreet military wife seeks no strings fun with respectable man. Tel: 0906 515 3039 Box 424419

KAREN, 52, 5ft5, short brown/blond hair, green eyes, medium build, GSOH, loving, caring and kind, likes to do lots of things, likes a laugh, WLTm similar gent, love to hear from you soon! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425917

JEAN, 40, 5ft slim, busty blonde, new to dating and fed up of going through the pub scene, WLTm down to earth male for adult company. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425671

RAPID MATCH

Simply tell us your age and location and we will match you immediately!

TEXT LOVE TO 89990

or call 0906 500 5757

Customer support

Call 0207 720 7130 Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm or email us at **support@jmediauk.co.uk**

It's cheaper now to refresh your love life online!

Unlimited use for just £19.95 per month

VISIT: http://dating.expressandstar.com

ATTRACTIVE well educated lady, mid 30's, solvent, professional, seeks discreet broad minded gent. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3043 Box 425891

ANETTA, black cuddly lady seeks man who knows what a woman needs. I'm very friendly and have time for you. Please call or text me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425933

MELINDA, 52yrs, attractive and broad minded seeking chap any age for some fun. Couples also. Text only Mailbox: 4131946

JANE, attractive and young looking 60 something lady, active, outgoing with interesting personality, hoping to meet a kind gent for occasional meetings. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425931

JOSIE, sexy black lady, 52yrs seeks adult times with concerning gent, any age, discreet clean, womanly figure. Text only Mailbox: 4028592

GILLY, slim petite lady, affectionate and loving, solvent with own home, hoping to meet gent, must be kind, looks unimportant. ACA/text answered. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425929

KEEP DATING SIMPLE!

NO PROFILES TO FILL OUT

NO APPS TO DOWNLOAD

NO CREDIT CARDS

JUST STRAIGHT FORWARD AND SIMPLE DATING. IT'S NEVER BEEN EASIER!

TEXT MATCH TO 89990

All messages received £1.50. Text STOP to 89990 to exit at any time. Minimum 7 messages must be sent before contact details can be exchanged. This service is not computer generated. Messages are responded to by real service users. No meetings can be guaranteed. If arranging a meeting be sure to choose a public space and do not give personal details to people you have not met. Service provided by No Goats Ltd. Help: 0207 720 7130 or email: support@jmedia.co.uk

ANNABELLE, sophisticated 28yrs hoping to meet older gent for adult fun, discreet, sincere, genuine advertiser. Text only Mailbox: 4157105

MERRY widow seeks lovely lonely gent for companionship. Please call. We can have a chat and see how we get on. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425927

AMANDA, slim blonde, 50s seeks discreet gent for special times, mutually beneficial to us both. Call now. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425327

SARA, 43, educated, independent, attractive female, nervous about dating through advertising, so pls don't disappoint me by not replying. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425703

BROWN eyed female, 66, smoker, likes music, cinema, theatre, meals out. WLTm male 67-74 for LTR. Text only. Mailbox: 5501142

MICHELLE, 34, blonde blue-eyed happy female, loves heels and being feminine, OHAC, self sufficient, looking for male for long-term romance and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425669

FEMALE, 66 yrs old, looks young, loves to laugh, n/s, who is genuine, caring and just wants to be loved again. Text only. Mailbox: 5750819

MARIE, very attractive curvy widow, longing for romance, seeking country-loving male with old-fashioned values for lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425599

SUE 36yrs enjoys most things, meals in/out, easygoing, broadminded, passionate, slightly feisty, looking for adult fun, call me if your interested in spicing things up. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425587

KATHY 37, gorgeous mixed race single female, 5ft 8ins, slim, sensual, just looking for kind, trustworthy guy any age, looks or race. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425589

JACKIE, 56yrs, attractive lady who is lots of fun seeks like-minded gent for nights in, days out and much much more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424491

SUE, 60s lady, calling all gents who seek a mature solvent stylish lady. I can wine and dine you, you will have a nice time, call or text me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424781

JAN 41, fed up of sitting at home every weekend watching TV alone. Feel the same and looking for love? please contact me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425497

JEAN, mature lady genuine with many hobbies, slim, blonde and attractive. WLTm interesting gent with GSOH, must be cheerful, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424675

KATHERINE, 28, tall, slim, dark, blue eyed female with many interests, OHAC, WLTm interesting male for dates, and more. Single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425287

TRACY, 41, outgoing sun worshiper, OHAC, employed, looking for her Prince Charming to enjoy romantic holidays and good times together. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425257

SHARON 36yr old single mum looking for loving guy who will appreciate me and help repair my broken heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425283

SHELLEY slim N/5 40's female who likes the simple things in life so a big gestures required, seeking loyal loving male for hopeful LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425253

SANDRA, smart, sophisticated lady young looking 60s, genuine and kind seeks gent with GSOH, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424671

HELEN, mid 50's naughty lady seeks some fun times with gent any age. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424493

MARY, professional mature lady, loves life, very sociable and fun, seeks gent for good conversation and happy times. All calls and texts answered. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424775

LINDA, 48yrs attractive brunette seeks gent for laughter, winning dining. Age unimportant. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425337

LOVING lady, romantic and tactile seeks likeminded gent for special times, lets make each other feel special. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425325

ATTRACTIVE Caribbean lady 59yrs, very jolly and fun seeking gent any age who must love good times. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425323

ANDREA, 43, slim with long dark hair, blue eyes, loves to dance seeks romantic man to share intimate moments in or out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425221

CAROL, mid 50s lady, young at heart, attractive and sexy (so I'm told!) Give me a call if you are a gent with GSOH. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424783

THELMA, 59, slim, petite and Afro Caribbean, GSOH, trustworthy, honest and very caring, leave me your details if that sounds good to you! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425195

THAI female, 39, very beautiful, petite and self sufficient, loves cooking and home making, looking for caring, kind man/single dad. Please call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425191

CHRISTINE, 40, attractive slim sporty brunette seeks fit well built male. Call me let's see what the future brings. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425061

AMANDA, 36, tall, slim, busty brunette seeks man, any age, any area, for discreet daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418117

NAUGHTY curvy 46yr old lady, outgoing and bubbly with a naughty side and lots of banter, WLTm chap 30+. If you are married even better. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425033

LOUISE, 29, curvy red haired female, been hurt in the past seeks male to buy her flowers and mend her broken heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425041

LYN, 47, curvy quiet sensitive brunette but with a wild side. It could be exciting to know me! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425013

MELANIE, 49yrs, varied interests, attractive, sensual lady seeks gent any age or status, call, see what happens. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424337

KAREN, 47, an attractive blue-eyed redhead, curly size 16, likes films, football, pubs, reading, seeking likeminded male for nights in/out, hopefully more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425057

JULIE attractive 35yr old female with a great body, looking for no strings attached evening meets. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425037

MARY, passionate honest slim blue-eyed blonde, 39yrs, likes nights in/out, looking for affectionate male, any age to spend adult fun times. Interested? call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425009

DONNA, 42, bright bubbly blue eyed blonde looking for someone to enjoy life and love to the full with. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424873

RETIRED happy, caring, attractive female, likes gardening, travel, animals, comedy, seeks tall, funny, kind chap, Shropshire. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411459

SUZANNA, 45, lovely beautiful classy French lady looking for happy decent reliable very sexy man for lots of TLC and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424847

SARAH, young looking curvy 41yr old female, bored with everyday routines, WLTm lady for some fun discreet and extremely broadminded younger male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424827

DEBBIE, 50, petite blonde looking for some fun and adventure with similar fun loving mature male. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424799

Single Men

SEMI retired business man, early 60s, slim, well travelled, fit, tanned, good looking, solvent and very discreet, WLTm female, 35-55, for daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425183

MALE, 60s, 5ft10, slim build, looking to meet female, for a mature adult relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426053

MALE, 58, works in agriculture, lives in North Shropshire area, likes the countryside, days at the coast even in the winter, meals out, looking for loving, caring, country girl, 50s-60s. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 426037

SINGLE male, 31 years old, brown eyes, black hair, 6ft, seeks single slim athletic build lady similar age for fun, hopefully more. Text only. Mailbox: 4765584

JAY, attractive, 6ft2, single father, loves a laugh and a giggle, looking for a lady for evenings out, company and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424303

CHRISTIAN, 57, 6ft, dark, likes walking, nice meals and socialising, looking for discreet times with a similar fun lady. If you are interested please contact me. I look forward to hearing from you. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425947

STEVE, 59, sincere and genuine, likes pub company, country walks and cinema, seeks Chinese, Thai, Black, Asian or Italian lady, looks unimportant but personality is, for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425831

I am looking for a lady friend to enjoy my retirement with. I enjoy going out for meals and would like some company. Text only. Mailbox: 5777872

CALLING all ladies 40+ who would like to be wined, dined and romanced by attractive gent, 54 years please call or text me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425943

PROFESSIONAL gent, mid 60s loves holidays, winning dining, shows in London, seeking similar minded lady to romance. Own house car. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425941

JOHN, mid sixties widower, cultured and interesting, solvent with own home, WLTm lady 55+ for genuine companionship. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425939

GENUINE single gent, 55yrs, seeks friendship hopefully leading to true love with lady 35-55, looks unimportant. Please call or text me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425937

SOLVENT gentleman, young 70s, loves life seeking a lady of any age to spoil and pamper, take on holidays, wine and dine. Genuine advertiser. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425935

ADVENTUROUS 36-year-old male, slim, dark hair, has many interests, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235

MARRIED businessman, mid fifties, seeks lady for discreet adult fun. Any age/looks unimportant. Text only. Mailbox: 5534019

MALE, 60, tall and slim, WLTm older female of larger build, any age, any status, for adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425807

TALL male, 58, seeks larger woman, any age, for discreet fun, married or single. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425643

GENUINE male, 37, friendly and easygoing, enjoys sport and keep fit, WLTm genuine female 25-45, for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420253

TALL, dark, attractive male, 57, WLTm an attractive female for discreet daytime fun, 25-50. Can travel. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425759

MALE, late 60s, medium build, 5ft10, n/s, car owner, likes meals out, holidays, walks, WLTm attractive female who enjoys similar activities for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425757

Who's caught your eye?

Let them know you might be interested by sending them a WINK...

Simply Text

WINK 26

*EG send Wink 123456 to 80098

80098 costs £1.50 per message. To STOP text STOP to 80098. Service provided by No Goats Ltd. 18-19th Sts. Newmarket Cam CB23 7JG

ATTRACTIVE Shrewsbury male, 50s, WLTm an attractive female, any age/status, for discreet daytime fun and excitement. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422801

GARY, 46, 5ft10, blue eyes, GSOH, likes football, quiet nights in, nights out, cinema, walking, travelling, looking for a likewise woman, 35-50, bubbly and fun loving with a GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425441

I'M Andy, 52, looking for a lady, 50-65, for long term relationship, so text me and lets see what happens. Text only. Mailbox: 5396692

MATURE male, 50, medium-build, varied interests, seeks true Christian female, 35-45, who enjoys evenings in and dining out, for friendship or possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419283

ATTRACTIVE male, 58, seeks adventurous female, 50-70, for close fun. Any status or size. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425535

DAN 46, easy going chap WLTm a lady 40+ for an uncomplicated discreet friendship with on strings fun. Discretion guaranteed. Text only. Mailbox: 5595606

WELL made broad male, 5ft 10ins, medium build, looking for some adult fun with lovely sexy lady, possible LTR or friends with benefits. Text only. Mailbox: 5321154

MIKE 49, slim, young looks, seeks female, 35-50 for friendship and going out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 356651

Follow us on twitter
@DATElocally

MATURE male, 50, medium-build, varied interests, seeks true Christian female, 35-45, who enjoys evenings in and dining out, for friendship or possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419283

CHRISTIAN male 51, seeking Christian female, 35-45 for friendship, possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423747

MATURE male, 70s, tall, retired, recovering alcoholic, WLTm someone understanding, maybe in the same situation for friendship and mutual support. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425263

YOUNG looking 63 year old male, GSOH, friendly, considerate, attractive, looking for a naughty female, any age/status, for adult fun and friendship. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425243

IRISH gent, 66, GSOH, n/s, wishes to meet lady, North Birmingham area, for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425269

JAMES, 59, 5ft11, average build, WLTm a Christian lady, 60-70, for companionship. Hope to hear from you. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425227

IRISH male, 62, 5ft 9ins, GSOH, independent, seeks genuine female for friendship initially. Birmingham area. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403623

MALE 63, widower, Irish, GSOH, tall, independent, seeks special lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409243

MALE 65, GSOH, seeks female for friendship and companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418389

TOM, 32, slim, attractive, own home, likes to eat out and in, WLTm honest, kind girl for tender, loving care and fun times. No time wasters please. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424929

CHRIS, 49yrs honest gent seeks lady 45-55 for socialising, friendship, maybe leading to romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425345

PETER, sincere solvent gent 70s seeks lady to wine dine, foreign travel, all expenses paid. I would love a travelling companion. Genuine advertiser. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425343

Revving up for a full season of race thrills

WITH testing in full swing and motorbikes being fine tuned before the season opener, it's time to have a look at our region's top club racers.

From the ultra-competitive Thundersport GB, to endurance racing, Darley Moor championships and the road racing scene, there's plenty to keep fans occupied over the spring and summer months, right into autumn.

Pete Wright, aged 51, from Tividale, and team-mate Martyn Silvert, 42, from Blackheath, have just returned from testing in Spain.

The Black Country pair, who compete under the double22-two racing banner, will be back in the No Limit Racing Endurance Cup this year, but will move up to 600cc after dominating the clubman class during their debut season in 2016.

Lloyd Shelley, 33, from Burntwood, will be returning to the Darley Moor this year – but his focus will be a first stint in the Thundersport GB Elite Class series on his Triumph 675.

Neil Lloyd, 46, from Wednesbury, will be back on board his Honda RVF400 this year. After finishing runner-up in two classes at the Darley Moor Club Championships in 2016 he will return to the series – but his main focus will be his first shot at road racing.

Goal-line technology 'would be welcome'

STAFFORDSHIRE'S former Premier League referee Alan Wiley has welcomed the news that goal-line technology may be introduced in the Championship from next season.

The 56-year-old, from Burntwood, refereed in England's top flight from 1999-2010 and is pleased that EFL bosses have agreed – in principle – that the second tier shall follow the lead set by the Premier League.

"It's excellent news," said Wiley about the possibility of the Hawk-eye system being introduced in the Championship. Anything that helps make the right decision. It's been very positive in the top division and it'll work in the Championship.

"It's a proven system. Once a decision is made – it's goal or no goal – there's no questioning. Teams work all week to score goals and stop conceding goals so we need something proving it one way or the other."

As to whether the law could be spread to Leagues One and Two, he added: "It would be good if we could but I think it's ultimately down to costs."

Video assistance for officials has also been muted, and while Wiley believes help would be beneficial – he doesn't want the game to lose the human element.

Rutter set to power back on electric bike

MICHAEL RUTTER could be back competing in all seven Isle of Man TT races after revealing plans to test out a new electric bike in America.

The Bridgnorth star has also joined former team-mate Stephen Thompson, who is now running his own Thompson Plastering outfit after recovering from an horrific injury, to race on the island.

Thompson was rushed to hospital after a three-bike smash at the North West 200, in Northern Ireland, in 2015 while racing for the Bathams team.

He eventually lost part of his arm the following year but having felt the pull of the racing scene return, he is now ready to get back in the business of motorbikes – something Rutter was more than happy to help out with.

"Steve had a bad crash and lost his arm. He had a few problems after the crash but he really missed being involved with racing," he said. "He wanted to set up his own team and ours will be helping out."

"He'll be working with us but will have his own awning and his own team. "I'll be riding a Yamaha R6 600cc under his banner for the two supersport races."

Rutter will also be back competing in the Lightweight TT on a bike that has already brought him success.



Ron Flowers – one of the greatest

Ron's at the head of the Flowers dynasty

HE'S one of the greatest players in the history of Wolverhampton Wanderers. And now Ron Flowers is hoping to watch his grandson follow in his illustrious footsteps after the 20-year-old signed a professional contract with Burnley.

A commanding centre-half, Harry Flowers had been turning out for Staffordshire side Brocton earlier this season. But after being spotted by a Clarets scout, he was offered, and accepted, a pro deal at the Lancashire club.

And the youngster knows his grandfather is the

SPORTING MEMORIES

By Joseph Masi

His form in gold and black also allowed him to shine on the international stage

perfect role model if he ever needs advice. Born in Edlington, a mining village in South Yorkshire, Ron also had to move away to achieve his footballing ambitions.

He was initially spotted as a teenager by Doncaster Rovers before coming to the attention of Wolves scouts.

But his move to the West Midlands had to wait, with his father Jack insisting he had to finish an apprenticeship with train firm LNER Locomotive before he left Yorkshire.

Rescue

Fortunately, Wolves manager Stan Cullis came to the rescue. He spoke to Jack and offered his son maximum wages for a 17-year-old, meaning that Ron would be earning more a week than his dad did. And reluctantly Jack gave in.

But more disruption was just around the corner. The following year, Ron was called up for National Service.

Applying to the RAF, he completed his initial training at Hednesford followed by a posting to Cosford.

It was during the six weeks of training that Ron made his first-team debut for Wolves against Blackpool.

And while the Molineux men lost, Ron marked the occasion with a goal.

A terrific athlete and fine passer of the ball, Flowers went on to establish himself in the Wolves side for the next 15 years, playing at either wing-half or centre-half.

And it was his partnership with Peter Broadbent that formed the bedrock of the Wolves teams that

won the League Championship in 1954, 1958 and 1959, as well as the FA Cup in 1960.

In total, Flowers made 512 appearances for the club between 1952 and 1967, scoring 37 goals – putting him sixth in the club's all-time list of appearance makers.

His form in gold and black also allowed him to shine on the international stage.

In 49 appearances for England, Flowers scored 10 goals and played in the 1962 World Cup. He was also part of Sir Alf Ramsey's squad that famously won the competition in 1966.

Flowers didn't kick a ball in anger during that tournament. But there is no doubt he still played his part.

Flowers suspected then, as he still does now, that he was included in Alf Ramsey's 22-man squad for the finals for a specific reason.

The oldest member of the group, he was there to set an example.

Standby

"I was there to do a job," he said in an exclusive interview with our sister daily the Express & Star. "As far as I had been concerned, my England career was finished."

"I hadn't been expecting the call."

Flowers also came a whisker away from playing in the biggest game in English football. Before the final in 1966, Jack Charlton had told Ramsey he was struggling with a cold. And that prompted the boss to put Flowers on stand-by.

"The message was, be ready," explains Flowers.

"It was not, as you might expect however, the cause of any nerves, or indeed a restless night. It didn't make any difference to my thinking."

"I knew whatever he might have come down with, he would play."

"Do you really think Jack Charlton was going to miss out on the World Cup final because of a cold? It would have needed to have been one heck of a cold."

After retiring from professional football Ron opened his shop Ron Flowers Sports in Queen Street, Wolverhampton.

Today it is run by his son, and Harry's dad, Glenn.



Ron Flowers playing for England in 1959. He made 49 appearances for England



Wolves' midfielder Jack Price shakes hands with Ron Flowers



Wolves legend Ron Flowers pictured in his Molineux glory days



SPORTS DESK 01902 319531

CHRON.SPORT@EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK

Clarke now unbeaten in 15 as a pro

LENNOX Clarke made it 15 professional victories as he defeated the resilient Bartłomiej Gafka in his toughest test to date at the Banks's Stadium.

The unbeaten Halesowen prospect did enough to take all eight rounds, an 80-72 score from the judges. The 25-year-old was sharp throughout but his Polish opponent gave a warning he would be no pushover.

The super middleweight was battling for the centre of the ring and trying to tie Gafka up on the ropes but the 28-year-old powered his way out of trouble.

As the fight reached halfway Gafka appeared to be growing into the contest but it was Clarke who was doing the most work without hurting his opponent.

The sixth and seventh round left Gafka's face blood-stained, from a cut to the nose and the eye but despite the damage the only time the travelling fighter was on the canvas was when he slipped in the seventh.

It was another close round in the eighth but Clarke did enough to earn a clean sweep and move a step closer to the title shot.

West Bromwich's Joshua Stokes put on a masterclass in body punching as he got off to the perfect start in his professional career.

The debutant looked powerful as he punished Mitch Mitchell with crunching hooks, taking a 40-36 victory after following his brother Tom into the professional ranks.

Former kickboxing World Champion Brad Foster, from Lichfield, earned the only stoppage of the night, needing just two and a half minutes to finish Leonard Rafael.

In the opener, 21-year-old Connor Parker of Swadlincote breezed to victory over Liam Richards in a one-sided contest.

Point could be too late after shock win by relegation rivals

STOURBRIDGE Chess Club took full advantage as Droitwich defaulted a board in Worcestershire County Division 2. After a draw the previous week, Stourbridge this time won 3-2.

A last minute emergency on Tuesday meant Stourbridge had to travel to Mutual Circle with only three players for a four-board Dudley Division 2 match. Julie Wilson and Jeremy Humphries got draws and while team captain Chris Cox won, resulting in a drawn match.

For the first time this season Stourbridge's Wolverhampton Division 1 team were at full strength for a trip to Bushbury, but the opposition also effectively at full strength. Stourbridge were outgraded on the top two boards but the other boards appeared pretty level and it ended in a 3-3 tie.

This point is probably too little too late in Stourbridge's relegation fight, as their closest relegation opponents Telford won against title-chasing Stafford who previously had a 100 per cent record.

Anyone interested in joining should contact Dave Scriven on 01384 423642 or visit www.stourbridgechess.f9.co.uk

Blow to Glassboys' promotion hopes



Danny Maguire heads home Spartans' second

Stourbridge 0 Warrington 1

WARRINGTON substitute Ruben Jerome consigned Stourbridge to a third straight league defeat in a spiky clash which left the home dugout enraged.

Jerome latched on to Michael Monaghan's flick from a long punt forward and lashed into the roof of the net from the edge of the box for the only goal with 17 minutes to play on Monday night.

Warrington had arrived late, leading to a 10-minute delay to kick off. But their time waiting was a feature of a frustrating night which saw the visitors become the first team to shut out the

Football

Glassboys twice this season. On Saturday, injury-stricken Stourbridge suffered a setback to their Evo-Stik Premier promotion prospects after being well beaten 2-1 by leaders Blyth Spartans in front of a bumper Amblecote crowd of 1,376.

Matt Gould was beaten on 24 minutes when Robbie Dale rifled home a free-kick from fully 30 yards out and Danny Maguire headed home the second on half-time.

Tom Tonks struck a 30-yard consolation with virtually the last kick of the match.

STOUR BATTLE FOR A BONUS

Stourbridge 14 Sedgley Park 19

WITH both sides' promotion hopes already dashed but neither under relegation pressure there was little but pride at stake as Stour took on the Mancunian visitors.

The hosts finished the stronger as their pack got the upper hand and their opponents shipped yellow cards to desperate acts of goal-line defence.

But Stour were left to rue their failure to turn pressure into points during a lacklustre first hour.

Stour kept up the pressure and looked likely to be rewarded from a break by captain Ciaran Moore but winger Dan Rundle mistimed his acceleration onto the ball and split it.

Sedgley Park ran a first phase three-quarter move from their first set piece possession, full-back Andrew Riley slicing clean through the Stour defence.

Stour had the benefit of a penalty advantage, kicked for the corner and launched a set of short range drives, outside half Rod Petty wrong-footed the defence but centre James Otutaha unable to gather a pass that would have put him in under the posts.

Countered

An early second half Stourbridge attack got turned over when a speculative offload was picked off, Sedge countered and were only held by last ditch defending that cost Otutaha a yellow card. The penalty was kicked to the corner with replacement Jon Matthews scoring.

A wayward Sedge clearance kick fell to Petty who found prop Mark George in space but without the gas to outpace the cover. It got worse when a Stour clearance kick at the other end got charged down, Sedge working the ball wide against the still short-handed defences for 2nd row Rob Birtwell to just squeeze over in the corner.

Back to full complement Stour comfortably held off Sedge's next drives then attacked from set piece, winger Josh Tringham coming into the line to put White into space but his pass failed to find the unmarked Rundle and drifted into touch.

Past the hour mark and staring down the bar-



Stour centre James Otutaha splits the Sedgley Park defence for a late try under the posts

rel of home 'nilling' Stour dug deep and set to work on the Sedge scrum. Loosehead Max Ashcroft picked up a yellow card for collapsing. Stour kicked to the corner and Sedge found themselves reduced to 13 when Matthews got a yellow card for side-entry.

Stour opted for a five metre scrum and worked Otutaha over the line, Petty slotting a quick drop-kick conversion to make it 7-19 on 75 minutes.

With Sedge looking to close the game out Stour eventually regained possession and worked their way back downfield where a goal-line siege saw Sedge flanker Sam Peet also sin-binned for off-side. With time up Petty tapped and drove over to

secure a consolation losing bonus point for Stour.

The next league rugby at Stourton Park will see Midlands 2 West (N) leaders Stourbridge Lions hosting Tamworth on March 4, 2.15pm. Stour's next game is away at Chester the same day, then on March 11 they host league leaders Caldy, 3pm.

Meanwhile, Stourbridge Lions roared to a victory at Walsall 9-30. The squad for the game at Walsall was perhaps the strongest squad ever assembled and they proved how difficult the Lions are to beat right now. Another bonus point win and the third consecutive game without conceding a try is testament to the Lions.

Hospice in auction for Albion fans

MARY Stevens Hospice are offering the opportunity for one person to play for West Bromwich Albion at an upcoming charity match.

A team of West Bromwich Albion legends will play against a Stourbridge FC XI at the War Memorial Athletic Ground, on Sunday, April 2. Darren 'Big Dave' Moore the first star revealed to be turning out to help raise funds for the Hagley Road hospice.

The organisations involved have agreed to auction the opportunity for one person to enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime match day experience, lining up alongside some of the biggest names to play for West Bromwich Albion.

The auction will be done via email, and will remain open to bids until 5pm on March 24. In order to submit a bid, email Amanda Bowen at amanda@mshfundraising.co.uk with your bid, the name and age of the player you're bidding for and a contact number.

Amanda Bowen, deputy head of fundraising & lottery at Mary Stevens Hospice said: "We're over-the-moon to be able to offer someone that opportunity. Every penny of the money raised through this auction will support patients and families here at the hospice. If we can support our patients while giving someone the chance to fulfil a dream then it's something we're proud and excited to do."

Mark Naylor, co-founder of the event and goalkeeping coach at Albion, said: "Wearing the WBA badge is a privilege a lot of the lads involved in the day have been lucky enough to enjoy. There is nothing better than playing for a team you love, in front of a packed out crowd and if you can do that while supporting a cause that we are all so passionate about then that's just the most exciting thing to be involved in."

One goal edges out inconsistent Yeltz

HALESOWEN continued their inconsistent Evo-Stik Premier form with a defeat at Warrington, falling to a first-half injury-time strike by Danny Hattersley.

Ethan Delaney had Halesowen's only first half effort on goal on 29 minutes, but it went wide. Warrington took the lead right on half-time when Hattersley shot home. In the second half, Lee Chilton saw two efforts saved by Warrington 'keeper Tony McMillan. Joshua Askew and Connor McCarthy went close for the home side. Then, four minutes from time, Delaney saw red for Halesowen after a challenge on Billy Smart and it was game over for John Hill's men.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketterley, Telford. Thursday, February 23, 2017

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING The recycled content of newspapers in 2015 was 71%



Domino's®

01384 374666

Stourbridge Industrial Estate,
Mill Race Lane, Stourbridge DY8 1JN

Opening Hours: 11am to 11pm Sunday-Thursday
11am to Midnight Friday and Saturday